

Subject Commerce And Industry.

Date 3/10/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken September 1968

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 3/10/41

Source J. Luther McNeill, Marlinton, W. Va. Filed

Was holding for additional information but was
unable to get it.



3/18/41 Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co

In 1888 and 1890 Andrew Wooddell of near Edray operated a circular mill on Laurel Creek and other parts of Pocahontas County, his first set was on Laurel Creek or the headwaters of Stony Creek, another set was at the John Adam place, and another set at Henry Shearers place, John Galford did most of the skidding and Auburn Friel was sawyer, the fireman was J. Luther McNeill now living at Marlinton, this timber was sawed for Peters and Gay and rafted to Ronceverte, W. Va. In 1890 James (Jim) White of Laurel Creek ~~bought~~ bought a circular mill from Sam Gay and Andrew Wooddell and went to Elk near Slaty Fork and sawed for Jacob Sharp and from there they moved across the creek to the Hite place then owned by Sharp and from there to the foot of Gauley Mountain near Slatyfork and in Dec. 90 moved back up Elk to the Henry Sharp place and sawed for a man by the name of Brown of Elkins, Sam Gay did the skidding and the lumber was taken to Valey Head in Randolph County and loaded there.

In 91 they moved to the head of Elk and sawed a set for George Hannah, Shell, and Hugh Hannah did the skidding, and from there they moved to Big Springs and sawed for Thomas Vandervert, also some for the Gatewood Brothers and from there they moved to Elaverlick and sawed a set for Jacob Beverage some of this lumber was sold locally but the greater part was rafted to Ronceverte. In 1892 they moved to Stony Bottom and sawed a set

Age 1
Tacy ,one set for Patrick Meeks, and George McLaughlin and from here they moved to the mouth of Leatherbark and sawed a set for James Vanles where they sawed 400,000 this was logged by Bernard Hamrick of Cass.

During all of these operations Luther McNeill was fireman and Wooddell did the sawing.

Information. J. Luther McNeill. Marlinton. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.

Date 3/13/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 3, 12, 13/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 3/13/41

Source P.C. Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

Date Filed _____

C.G. McGuire. " "



In 1926 Preston C Curry and John C Haupt of Marlinton bought a circular mill from Gilbert Wilfong of near Buckeye on the river road and formed a partnership known as Curry And Haupt, they cut mine ties and lumber at Wilfongs and finished up and moved to Walter Hivelys on Thorny Creek and sawed a set and from there they ewnt to Austin Sharps near Frost and sawed a set, and from there they moved to J.C Harpers on Knapps Creek, and from there they bought timber from Elmer Moore and set the mill near James Reeds and upon completion of this set they sold the mill to Park McLaughlin but bought a new mill and moved it to Stephen Hole Run on the farm of T.S McNeel from whom they had bought a boundary of timber and upon completion moved to the farm of Carl G Beard of near Millpoint and cut a set there, and from there moved the mill to Porter Sharps and sawed a set there and from thee they moved to the foot of Elk Mountain and sawed a set on the Illis Sharp place and from here they moved to the C.G and Sallie McGuire farm on Elk this was in 1930 ~~aXXXXXXXXXXXXX55XXXXXX~~ and from there they moved to the Birdie O Dilley farm and sawed 150,000 feet and bought 55,000 from John and Frankie Dumire and 5,000 feet was bought from William Gilmore, besides 130,000 that McGuire put in to this set from the McGuire farm, this timber was sawed for C.G McGuire and James Gibson and was cut and skidded by them, Williams & Pife handled the lumber for McGuire and Gibson. From Elk Curry And Haupt moved the mill to Jacksons River in Va. and sawed for Burruss Land And Lumber Co. of Lynchburg Va. here they sawed 6 million feet and moved to Bolars Draft Va. & sawed 3 million.

Their next set was in W. Va. on Porter and Katie Sharps place here here they sawed 1300,000 for the Right Lumber Co. of Bristol Tenn. This was in 1932 and it was at this operation that Haupt died in 32. and W.W Harper of Buckhannon bought Mrs. Haupt out and they began operating under the name of Curry & Harper, this job was completed and they moved the mill to The West Union Church and sawed 4 million feet for The Wright Lumber Co. of Bristol, Tenn, at this set the timber from the Jacob and Jacob Sharp farms was sawed also logs from the

Mullens farm on Laurel Creek, which was cut and skidded by Mullens.

Curry & Harper bought logs from Edwin Buzzard and from the M. L. Buzzard farm on Williams River cut and skidded by Curry And Harper with horses and a caterpillar tractor and it was at this set that the mill burned down they finished this set and moved the new mill to Stamping Creek where it is operating at the present time as they truck logs from all over the lower end of Pocahontas and the upper end of Greenbrier Co. and so far they have sawed near 4 million feet which is trucked to Marion and Pulaski Va, to Clarksburg, Rainelle and to Elkins to the homestead, besides what goes to Mt. Airy. N.C. the flooring, furniture and crating lumber goes to Clarksburg. W. Va.

The sawyers on these operations have been Bert Roberts and Joe McKenney, the lumber graders, J. R. Guthrie and Keith Wilt.

They have 6 trucks, 1 caterpillar tractor and 1 team of horses to do the ~~skidding~~ skidding and trucking of the logs. They employ from 27 to 30 men and at present they have a mill operating in Va. near Solar Springs and another operating in Greenbrier Co. They run a boarding house and as Curry has a gen. store in Marlinton his hands do their trading there. This operation has meant a lot to Pocahontas County.

Information. P. C. Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

C. G. McGuire.

" "

The mill is set on the William H Cackley farm near the Stamping Creek Church.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry.

Date 5/15/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken _____

Typist Smith

Date Typed 5/8/41

Source F.P. Kidd Beard .W.Va.

Date Filed _____

J.R. Cutlip. " "

2 Moss Miller Buckeye.W.Va.



Had a promise of more detail in. on these but failed to get it in time.

In 1907 the Kidd Kirby And Lilly Lumber Co. were operating in the head of the hollow on a branch of Trump Run the farm now owned by F.P. Kidd, The Lilly Lumber Co. was operating at Hinton at this time and the Kidd Kirby And Lilly Lumber Co. were capitalized at \$100,000.00 and the main stockholders were F.P. Kidd & C.H. Kirby and the Lilly Lumber Co. of Hinton W. Va.

At this set they sawed between 6 and 7,000,000 this lumber was taken to the main line of the C & O by a narrow gauge R.R. down to the mouth of Locust, they operated here until 1912 and moved to the William McClure farm and operated here until 1914. This was a 6 foot circular mill and upon completion F.P. Kidd operated at Kinnison operating the upper end of the Denmar tract that was operated by the Maryland Lumber Co. they put in a swinging bridge across the Greenbrier at Kinnison to bring the logs to the west side of the river where the mill was set, a good lumber town sprang up at Kinnison during this operation as they had a store and several dwelling houses for the men and their families. This operation furnished employment to from 40 to 50 men.

Inf. F.P. Kidd Beard. W. Va.

J.R. Cutlip. " "

7-2
In 1936 A.G. Killingsworth of Marlinton operated a tract of timber he bought from Moss Miller of Buckeye, W. Va. Park McLaughlin sawed this set with his mill this was virgin timber and mostly White and Red Oak that cut out choice lumber part of it was bill stuff and brought a fancy price this was skidded with Killingsworth's horses driven by Marion Howard.

Another of his operations was at Cloverlick, sawed by McLaughlin and in 1940 he bought a boundary on Stamping Creek but sold it to Lee Barlow of Marlinton but is being cut and skidded by Killingsworth's men and horses. Killingsworth operates a planing mill at Marlinton also does contracting, and has built some of Marlinton's better buildings, also sells building material. Inf. Moss Miller, Buckeye, W. Va. (a my own personal knowledge)

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Commerce And Industry.
Subject ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Date 3/12/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken Some time ago.

Typist Smith

Date Typed 3/12/41

Source B.C Hayes Millpoint, W. Va.

Date Filed _____

D.E Ruckman. " "

He is hoping to get more info.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

In 1908 and 09 The Deer Creek Lumber Co. was operating on Stamping Creek near where the Stamping Creek stands today they were operating the timber from the William H Wade farm and at present owned by OM Hook & X this as a circular mill and they had a tram road from the mill to the timber some 2 miles or more, they used an incline, a drum, and a wire cable, driven by an engine. This brought the log trucks back from the mill to the woods, often the log trucks were high in the air on a trestle but the cable would let them go down the grade in a safe way.. The main mill of this company was operating at Deer Creek.

William Eisenhuth was the foreman on Stamping Creek and his wife run boarding house. At the first of this operation they used horses to bring empty log trucks back to the woods.

Willis Hill, Poe Weiford, Remus Rogers and CM Gladwell and B.C Hayes teamsters, Jack and Gordon of Greenbrier cut the timber and Charlie Har- worked by the day as a laborer.

nf. B.C Hayes Millpoint. W. Va.

I Ruckman .

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce & Industry, (Lumber) Date 12/20/40

Research Worker S.G. Smith

Date Research Taken 12/18/40

Typist S.G. Smith

Date Typed 12/19/40

Source Frank Knapp - Denmar. W, Va.
Winters Cochran-Beard, !!
Sidney McCoy

Date Filed Dec 23, 1940

- Commerce And Industry, S, G Smith, Hillsboro, W, Va. Pocahontas County.
Shoe Last Factory -

In 1923 a shoe last factory was put in at Spice Run, a man by the name of Frank Knox of Wisconsin was general manager, this operation took place on the East side of the Greenbrier River.

They used hard Maple for the last's this lumber they bought from the Spice Run Lumber Company, the last's or blocks that they were to be made from were cut and put in a Dry Kiln after this drying process they were ready to be shipped to New York, however they failed to ship many as the plant burned down but they rebuilt it but failed to operate again this was in 1924.

Information Frank Knap. Denmar. W, Va.

Winters Cochran	Beard	"
Sidney McCoy	"	"

John Raine And Company.

In 1907 John Raine of Ironton Ohio came to Pocahontas County ,West Va. in the quest of timber locating and buying some 1250 acres of timber for approximately \$20,000.00 he took in as partners B.E Carrier and L.G Swing and doing business as John Raine and Co.

They set the mill about the center of the tract of timber on the head of Stamping Creek close to the foot of Cranberry Mountain. On the Millpoint to Richwood Road.

Their boundary started not far above the Stamping Creek church followed the bridge or backbone of Little Mountain to a point on Viney Mt, from there to the head of the hollow that leads to Cranberry River and Cranberry Glades around the Mountain toward the High Rocks taking in the Blue Lick and the Chestnut Ridge to the creek.

They put in a six foot or poney band mill run at a short time and it burned down they then set in a steam feed circular mill. They built a store, boarding house and about 20 dwelling houses and called the place Raine Town this section is still known as Raine town although the houses are all gone but two or three.

The timber cut was mostly all hard wood, namely cherry, red and white oak ,ash and chestnut.

Raine had a locomotive, and a loader ,railroads tracks were built up the hollows to shorten the haul in skidding which was quite steep in places 4 teams or 8 horses were used in the skidding.

Two men were killed during their operation Emmett Nottingham of Millpoint was killed cutting timber by a falling tree.

Ben Ramsey of Caesar's Mt. was killed on the log train he was brake-

When the train was running away and somehow in trying to apply the brakes was between two cars and when they wrecked he was crushed by a log and O.M. Hook the engineer jumped to safety and escaped with minor injuries although the logs had him pinned down. D.B. Kellison of Millpoint, the fireman jumped to safety and was unhurt save for cuts and bruises he received from landing in rocks and gravel.

Raine Town was a lively little lumber town it furnished employment to several men besides the ones living in the houses as they employed some 35 men not counting the skilled workers, foreman etc. Their payroll was \$2,500.00 each month this furnished a market for the near by farmers for their surplus commodities, namely eggs, dairy products, meat and truck crops.

About as fast as the lumber was sawed it was loaded on standard gauge cars shipped out on Warn Lumber Co. R.R. to the main line of the C&O and to the many lumber markets in the eastern part of the U.S. Raine Town is between 3 & 4 miles from Millpoint on the Richwood Road and on the head waters of Stamping Creek.

John Raine was a very influential man in for every thing that was for the betterment of the community in which he lived and worked, helped with all church work and made large contributions to the church.

They finished up this operation in 1913 shipped out all the lumber and machinery, thus ended one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations and was greatly missed when the payroll not only stopped but the market for the farmers commodities.

Raine Town today is merely 2 or 3 houses and that is all that is left of the once thriving town.

After this operation John Raine and his brother
the late Thomas Raine founded the Meadow River Lumber Company at Rain-
elle, W, Va. one of the largest hardwood operations in W, Va. John Raine
represented Greenbrier County for one term in the Legislature.

John Raine passed on August, 26/40 thus the passing of
one of the best citizens of the Greenbrier Valley.

Information

-----Luther Ray

Millpoint W, Va.

Owen H ook

" "

Joseph Sharp

" "

C. W, Auldridge

" "

Pocahontas Times

Marlinton "

Court Records

" "

10/2/40

Pocahontas County

Industry And Commerce

S.G. Smith, Hillsboro, W. Va.

The Empire Wood Company.

In 1912 while the Tomb Lumber Company was operating, a kindling wood factory was ~~set up~~ cut slabs and all other rough lumber of no value for building purposes this was done with a rip saw and cut off saw, these slabs and boards were ripped in to narrow strips cut in short blocks taken by elevator up in a dry kiln that was 100ft. high there they were dried sent back down a slide to the press where they were pressed in to bundles tied with a string and stored ready for shipment.

George L Hyde was general manager for the kindling wood factory they had a rep. and salesman in New York City where it was sold for 10 cents per bundle. ✓

They shipped from 8 to 10 cars a month. When the Tomb Lumber Company ceased to operate The Empire Wood Company ^{lost} their contract for the slabs and other waste lumber from the mill that they cut in to kindling so in 1914 they cleaned up and moved out thus passed out the first and last mill that produced nothing but kindling This was used in New York to start coal fires in furnaces and other coal burning stoves,

Information-----

Glenn McComb-----Watoga W Va.

George McComb-----Watoga W Va.

Dennis Dunn-----Watoga W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry Date 3/19/41
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Source E. H. Williams. Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed _____
M. S. Wilson. " " "
James W. Forney. " " "
John Coffman. " " "
Court Records. " " "
Some information gotten before above date but not
ted on above dates.



18/41

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

Marlin Lumber Company.

The Marlin Lumber Company started operation in 1920 and finished in 1933, this operation took place at Stillwell, W. Va. about one mile below Marlinton, in what is known as Stillhouse Hollow.

In this company were the following, Dr. M. S. Wilson pres. and E. H. Williams, and Burton Wilson Gen. managers at different times during the operation, among the stockholders in this company were the following Dr. M. S. Wilson (Meritt), George, Nathan and Burton all brothers. A. C. Pifer, E. H. Williams, Lee Barlow, and J. A. McLaughlin.

During their operation at Stillwell they sawed 52,000,000 feet and this came from approximately 13,000 acres this includes land in the Buckley Mountains, on Beaver Creek and Knapps Creek, besides some timber on Browns Creek that was trucked to near Laden Bottom and loaded on the log train. one tract of timber aggregating 9470 acres was formerly owned by Greenbrier River Lumber Co. and covers land on Knapps Creek, Greenbrier River, Improvement Lick Run, Monday Lick Run, Stillhouse Run, Laden Bottom, and Butler Hollow.

They had a single band mill and the sawyer was Floyd Lovelace,

Henry Overholt, at different times.
the lumber grader was Emory Adkison, and James W. Forney run a commissary

for the co. they had 2 log engines, one log loader and about 30 log or tr-

ain trucks, John Coffman and Pete Spitzer were engineers. This Co. worked about 75 men besides the work that was done by contractors and among them were A.J Cook of Seebert and Meradith logging contractors besides the some 8 or 9 teams of the co.

George Simmons of Hillsboro sawed a set for this Co. on Browns Creek.

Before this operation took place there was one or two farm houses at what was later known as Stillwell but at the last of this operation there were from 8 to 10 houses, a boarding house that was run by Brown McComb and his wife, a school house besides the buildings used by the co and today you find a string of houses here and it is still known as Stillwell, but the school has been discontinued and the children go to Marlinton to school. Part of this area cut over by The Marlin Lumber Co. was land logged in the days of the white pine by Smith & Whiting for the St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. of Ronceverte.

Rail roads were built from Stillwell up the hollow, up Knapps Creek and up all the hollows of their holdings and if all in one would have made quite a long distance of R.R .

Upon completion this mill was sold for junk thus the passing of one of Pocahontas Countys larger lumber operations , this operation gre-

atly benefitted Marlinton as it furnished employment to many of her people. and at this time was one of the very few industries operating in this section of the county, therefore the lumbering operations at Stillwell helped to boost the population of Marlinton and made employment for many of her people.

Information. E.H Williams. Marlinton. W. Va.

M.S Wilson. " "

James. W Forney. " "

John Coffman. " "

Court Records. " "

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce & Industry, (Lumber) Date 12/20/40

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Date Research Taken 12/18 & 19/40

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Date Typed 12/19 & 20 /40

J.V. McKenney, Marlinton, W.Va.
Court Records,

Source O.M. Hook, Millpoint, W.Va.

Date Filed

Dec. 23, 1940

-Commerce And Industry, S.G Smith Hillsboro, W, Va. Pocahontas County.

Lutz And Macinish-Lumber)

J.F In 1911 D.F Lutz of Elkins Randolph County and a man by the name of Macinish of Belington came to Pocahontas County and bought timber from John and Levi V Gay of Edray deeds recorded as follows July 11, 1911 about 400 acres from Levi V Gay and Lee his wife amount paid \$5000.00 and in 1912 John D and Allie Gay sold them a tract of timber for \$1,500.00 deed dated November 12, 1912, C.J McCarty was clerk of the County Court at that time. They also bought a small amount of timber from Linnie Tyler of near Edray.

They set their Circular mill on the William Wooddell farm at the mouth of the Draft and just above where the Fair Ground, Brush Country Road crosses Stony Creek. They built a boarding house for the men and erected stables to care for their horses 8 in number as they did their own skidding and most of their cutting.

This Gay timber was located on and near Elk Mountain as they operated the timber on the face of Elk Mountain up to the big turn on the old road.

They had a locomotive, but loaded by hand, this was not a standard gauge engine nor was it a narrow gauge, it was in between, track was laid from the mill to the foot of Elk Mountain or a distance of approximately 4 miles. ~~//////////~~ O.M Hook now a farmer of Stamping Creek was one of the locomotive engineers as well as William Waugh then of Ronceverte. The sawyers were Bert Roberts and I.O Smith and it was estimated they cut between 5 and 6 million feet at this set. This lumber was mostly Red and White Oak with some Chestnut and was shipped out about as fast as it was sawed as most of it went to the Government and mostly heavy timbers cut from White Oak.

This operation finished up in 1915 the mill was taken down and

Lutz And Macinish page 2-

moved south the log engine 2 or 3 log train trucks were bought by A.V. Miller of Pennsylvania and at that time operating near Bartow near the head of the Greenbrier River.

They employed something like 20 men on the mill and in the woods besides 6 that operated the train and kept up the track therefore the payroll of this lumber job meant a lot to Pocahontas County and especially to Marlinton as the clothing and grocery stores did a flourishing business during the time the timber of this county was being operated as the woodsman had to have warm clothing and plenty of good substantial food.

This operation did not affect the growth of Pocahontas County in the least directly but the taxes this company paid helped with our county government.

There is no trace of this operation at this time .

Information-J.V McKenney Marlinton W.Va.Rfd.

O.M Hook Millpoint ''

Court Records Marlinton ''

Pocahontas Co.

Industry And Commerce

Sgt Smith H. Labore, W.M.

The Drouey Lumber Company.

In 1906 J R Drowsey of the state of New York came to West Virginia to buy some timber land he came to Pocahontas Co. and bought between 5000 and 10,000 acres on the east side of Greenbrier River from Rock Run just above Burnside a flag stop of the Greenbrier Division of the C and O Railroad to above Violet which is another stop flag station of the C and O then up Beaver Creek by Howard Underwoods the entire valley from there toward Burr Vally this covered the entire area of Fyles Mountain, Island Lick, Chicken House Run which is just across the river from Seebert, W Va.

A mill site was selected at what is now known as Watoga, W.Va and there the mill was set up it was a single band mill which had a circular saw set beside to cut the small logs. They built 25 or more dwelling houses, a boarding house, a store building post office, and school house, telephone service was extended there and everything made ready to start operation which started in March 1906. James Cook of Buckeye and A.J Cook of Seebert W.Va. contracted the skidding but George McComb of Watoga and Idd Whiting of Pennsylvania skidded up Beaver Creek and a million feet elsewhere on the job. Morris and Kimes also had a contract during the operation of this tract of timber.

Around 175 men were used in the woods. on the train ,on the mill and loader 2 locomotives and 1 loader ~~was~~ used. 30 to 40 horses R-R tracks were laid from the mill at Watoga up to Violet and up Beaver Creek, other tracks were laid to head of Chicken House run and to the head of Island Lick Run.

This company operated for approximately 4 yrs or 1910 and ran into difficulty and a new company took it over this time it operated under the name of Tomb Lumber Company William Tomb of Philadelphia, Pa. was General manager they op-

erated for another 4 years or until 1914 and they to were forced to quit and this time it was taken over by Watoga Lumber Company receivership for the company the job was completed in 1916.

This Watoga operation meant a lot to this section of the country as it furnished a market for surplus farm products of the surrounding territory namely dairy products poultry, eggs, meat, and truck crops. The Company built a school house and the county furnished the teacher for the children of the employees. Sunday School and preaching were held in the school building for the inhabitants of this lumber town.

Approximately 80 million feet were cut at Watoga besides the tan bark that was peeled and shipped out., to tanneries all over the United States. Wages paid at Watoga ~~were~~ 1.50 to \$2.00 with board or \$2 25 to \$3.00 and board yourself. the lumber was all shipped out and the mill taken down part of the rail and other equipment was bought by the Neel and Son Lumber Company operating near the head of the Greenbrier River the rest was disposed of elsewhere and shipped out of the country. at the close of this operation the houses with a suitable plot of ground was sold to the people from other sections of the state most of these were colored people and today we find a number of colored families living there, with a store, Postoffice, and a school when there is enough children to run a school. The Government having bought the mountain land to grow in to a forest.

One of my informants George McComb who is up in 80 years old worked at Watoga at day work also contract work, another informant Dennis Dunn worked a number of years at Watoga and

Wahontas Co.

S.G. Smith
Hillsboro, W. Va.

living just across the river, he runs a passenger boat to the Watoga side and back, he is a very dependable ferryman and a part of his income is derived from his Ferry-boat, this is necessary in getting back and forth to Watoga, which is approximately two miles East of State Route 219 leaving state road at Stephen's Hole Run just above Millpoint, W. Va.

Information-----George McComb, Watoga, W. Va.
Dennis Dunn. Watoga, W. Va.
Sherman Pyles, Seebert, W. Va.
James S. Cook. Millpoint, W. Va.
Court Records, Marlinton, W. Va.

In 1912 James Flynn of Charleston Kanawha County came to Pocahontas County looking for timber and upon locating what he wanted went back to Charleston and formed a company and in it were James Flynn, Gus and Mark Flynn along with some other stockholders at Charleston, and New York and forming what was known as The Spice Run Lumber Company which operated a short distance below Beard, W.Va or near the mouth of Spice Run on the Greenbrier River.

The first timber bought was from J.R Droney, The Pocahontas Timber Co Inc. and E.M Arbogast a Real Estate operator all on the East side of the Greenbrier River and extending up the river to The Maryland Lumber Co. cuttings.

They started operation in 1913 set in a single band mill built 25 dwelling houses for the men and their families, a boarding house and a company store in which the Post Office was kept.

They had 2 locomotives and a loader R.R tracks were built from the mill at Spice Run across the Greenbrier River and up the hollows to the head of Spice Run and Davys Run and in the immediate section of the Beaverlick Mt. this was standard gauge and was built mostly with Italian labor.

W.C Barlett of Cincinnati Ohio and Charlie Briggs of Glen Ray W.Va were Superintendents for the Spice Run Lumber Company, Barlett at the first of the operation and Briggs after, R.E Turpin and of Pa. and a man by the name of Brosious were the book keepers, and Dr's Gooch and Rich were the Company doctors.

The mill was set on what was known as the Rube McKeever or the Joe Perkins farm.

They employed some 125 men in the woods, on the mill and on the train and the common labprers received from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a day.

Spice Run Lumber Company #2

Having partially finished on the East side of the Greenbrier River they decided to buy timber on the West side of the river their train making daily trips up the C & O line to Mill Run and up Mill Run crossing the State Road on a spur of Droop Mountain about 1½ miles below Hillsboro thence up and across Caesar Mountain to Bruffeys Creek and to Lobelia and up Hills Creek to the head or to the Cherry River Cutting, they bought timber from the following,

	(Location)
Nancy R and G, H Dean	Near Lobelia
A. M. & J. M. Simmons	Rush Run
A. D. W. Hill	Droop Mt.
Edwin L Beard	Cherry River
G. F. & Mary H Hill	Near Lobelia
J. C. Kinnison	Bruffeys Creek & Hills Creek
J. W. & L. M. Bobbett	Hills Creek
J. L. & Sarah V Clowser	Hills Creek
A. W. & Meta J Hill	"
C. M. & Azlia Anderson	"
George & Mary E Sutton	Near Lobelia
R. C. & Armina V Cutlip	Droop Mountain
L. C. & T. C. McMillion	Hills Creek
Allen & N. C. Spinks	"
J. W. Dwyer	Bruffeys And Hills Creek
R. M. & Ella Bruffey	Hills Creek
W. Va Pulp And Paper Co.	" and Spice Run
G. A. & Florence Hull	"
W. D. & Bessie Morrison	Rush Run
W. W. & Rachel Kinnison	Bruffeys Creek
E. A. & Mary E Hodges	Hills Creek
J. & Rebecca May	Locust Creek
P. H. & Lula R McNulty	Bruffeys Creek
S. A. & Emma V Sparks	Rush Run
Sallie H Rogers	"
John G & Elizabeth Beard	Near Hillsboro & Caesar Mt.

W.W & H.V Beard ——— Caesar Mt.
Mary B Coulter ——— Near Spice Run.
Samuel & Lucy Sheets —Droop Mt.

Warn Lumber Co. —Bruffeys & Hills creek.

W.R & Florence McCoy —Bruffeys Creek.

J.M.L & Georgie Vaughn —Hills creek.

G.B & Iberia Hill. — "

S.J & Ada Payne . — "

George A. Kinnison (land)

Andy Carter — Caesar Mt.

D.M Kinnison — Bruffeys Creek.

Mary C Morrison — Rush Run .

G.A Kinnison — Bruffeys Creek.

J.W Roderick — Near the mouth of Spice Run.

E.M Arbogast . — A

Nathaniel Hollandsworth — Bruffeys Creek.

And Right of Way from the following.

J.M & R.H Cutlip.

G.C & Georgia Beard.

S.C & Minnie Dean.

J.F & Mary H Brook.

J.L McNeel

M.L & Elizabeth Beard.

Ellis & Sallie E McCarty.

J.W Kinnison

W.R & W.B Williams.

J.F & Ida J Darnell.

George F & Nevada S Alderman.

Edwin Moore.

J.S Mcneel the W.H Callison farm.

The cutting and skidding was mostly done by contractors and the following men had contracts—Sam Dean of Lobelia had (1) team and (3) men, Crockett Rose also of Lobelia had (1) team and (4) men, George Dean of near Lobelia

--- Spice Run Lumber Company.---# 4-

had (3) teams and 10 men, I.N Clutter of near Lobelia had 5 teams and 12 men, Nathaniel Hollandsworth had from 3 to 5 teams and from 10 to 15 men, each of these men had camps for the men and built stables for their horses, and besides the company had 3 ~~a~~ camps operating just one at a time one was at the Dean Hollow on the main Hills Creek, one at John Eagles, and the other at Spruce Run, 12 teams and 50 men were used at these camps with the following men as boss or woods foreman, Nathaniel Hollandsworth, Toney Kershner, and Walter Bird of Pocahontas Co.

Remus Rogers all of Pocahontas County and John Rossie of Greenbrier Co.

Charles B Larue was blacksmith he being of Hillsboro, and Dr Marvin C Smith also of Hillsboro was the Veterinary in charge of the horses when they got sick or crippled and needed medical treatment.

Tom Snyder was general superintendant for a while and Lovic Vaughn of Lobelia and George Dolan of Millpoint were foreman of the improvement gang.

At each of the company camps you found a ~~store~~ store so the men could get tobacco and clothing without coming out to Spice Run.

Mrs Georgia Vaughn run a private boarding house that took care of some of the men and especially the foremans and their wives and the General Superintendent and other officials of the company ate there. At Lobelia.

Accidents occurring on this operation were Archie Taylor of Renick, W.Va a section hand being run over by a train, and Romey Dorman of Beard ~~was~~ a brakeman on the train was crushed to death by a log that rolled from one of the train flat cars.

When they were running steady they cut something like 700 thousand a month and the best information I was able to get they cut in the neighborhood of 100 million during their operations at Spice Run as they cut over in the neighborhood of 23,000 acres this was on the East side of the Greenbrier River and what they operated on and near Caesar Mt, Bruffeys and Hills Creeks and upto the Cherry River Cuttings at the head of Hills Creek.

Robert S Larue of Hillsboro was store man in the company store at Spice Run.

This operation furnished employment to scores of woodsmen from this county as well as the surrounding counties and the little lumber town of Spice Run consumed the surplus farm products from the farmers in that

and moved out this was greatly missed by the farmers and the county in general felt the affects as well as the other business establishments as this was one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations.

Clarence Nesbit of N Y. and PA. was loaderman and R R foreman, and John Coffman was one of the engineers, he is now 74 years old and he tells me he has followed woods work for 43 years and that from 27 to 30 years of the 43 were spent in Pocahontas County and mostly as a Locomotive engineer as he worked on some of Pocahontas County's leading and larger timber operations. Homer Painter, Roy Shope, and Mott Gladwell were also engineers as well as Heaston Knapp who was engineer, fireman and brakeman. Walter Wiseman was saw filer and sawyer for a time, Floyd Lovellace was also sawyer for a time.

The two locomotives were brought to Spice Run from Bemis, W, Va & bought from The Wheeler Lumber Co, who had finished up at Bemis.

Upon my visit to Spice Run the scene of this operation I only found 2 houses standing out of the 25 originally built there Mrs Blanche Dorman the widow of Romey Dorman that was killed on this operation lives in one of these houses and the other rented to different people at different times as it is generally rented to the renter of the farm and now rented to Edith Callahan. The R R steel was mostly leased from the C & O and was taken up and returned to them, the mill and machinery was shipped to Spring Creek and put in operation there.

They owned something like 15 000 acres on the East side of the Greenbrier River and today the Government owns that, but the Spice Run Lumber Company still owns 200 acres on the West side where the mill set and where all the houses were built. This operation finished up in 1925.

Information--- Joe Cochran---Beard, W, Va. (Laborer on this operation)

Blanche Dorman--- " " (Widow of a train man)

Winters Cochran--- " " (Blacksmith on the job)

Lovic Vaughn---Hillsboro, " (Section Foreman)

Frank Knapp ---Denmar. " (Lumber Piler)

John Coffman---Marlinton, " (Engineer)

Sathaniel Hollandsworth---Spice, " (Boss and Contractor)

Court Records Marlinton, W, Va.

9/17/40

American Colum~~ba~~ And Lumber Company-----

The American Colum~~ba~~ And Lumber Company of St. Albans with Mr. M. W Stark of that city Supt and general manager came to Pocahontas County on the quest of timber and was informed that the McClintic brothers namely Withrow, Lock, and George of Buckeye, Marlinton and Charleston respectively had a tract for sale.

They bought this boundry of timber for \$40,000.00 which proved to have 34 million feet on it.

They contracted the manufacturing of this timber to the Bartholemew brothers namely George and Samuel of Cedar Grove Kanawah county, Bartholemews had a single band mill which they set close the Buckeye station of the C & O railroad this timber was located on Cave Creek, Bucks Run, Dry Creek and the head waters of McClintic Run on McClintic homestead, there was approximately 700 acres of this timber both hard and soft wood. The boundary run by the Pinnacle Rocks, thence to the Billie Sod thence to the Campbell Lumber Company cuttings, then running with the farms of the following Hannah McNeill, L.A Hefner, M.J McNeill, L.R Overholt, William C. McNeill, John Gay, M. Fleming, A and H, Shelton, N.C Rogers, D. A McNeill, and Jasper Auldridge.

Quite a little lumber town grew up at Buckeye station two stores a boarding house and 10 or 12 dwellings houses.

The mill was set railroad tracks were laid up Swago Creek to the timber and everything made ready to start operation they had two locomotives and a steam loader these were put on the tracks and by the use of iron cables and steel drums they were able to take the two locomotives and the steam log loader across the Greenbrier River not far from Buckeye station this was very dangerous task as they were heavy but were landed safely on the opposite side of the river.

About 100 men were used on the mill, in the woods and on the train the common laborers were paid from \$3 to \$4 a day. J. F Mills, of Charleston, took the contract to do the skidding he worked a while made no money and was forced to give it up the American Colum And Lumber Co, finished the skidding which was done with horses. This operation furnished employment for workmen from the surrounding territory and this payroll meant a lot to this section of Pocahontas County besides the payroll the market for surplus commodities of the Swago Community namely eggs, butter, potatoes, meats, and vegetables. The schoole enrollment was greatly increased in number. The church was greatly benefitted as Rev. J. V Tadlock a brother in law of the Bartholomews and a retired Presbyterian minister had Sunday School and preaching each Sunday in the afternoon with good attendance, George Ba rtholomew assisted

9/1 440

American Column And Lumber Co----

S.G.Smith-----

Pocahontas, Co.

Hillsboro, W. Va.

Chapter Seven.

with the Sunday School . These new comers with the help and assistance of local talent raised the morall of Swago Community.

A large percent of the people living in this little lumber town were tax payers thereby helping run our schools and to the support of our county government , which was greatly missed when they finished up and moved away.

The lumber was graded and shipped out as fast as they received orders for it to go to different parts of the country besides what was sold locally. Bartholomews finished up sawing in the spring of 1917, the stores sold out and quit business most of the families moved out to find employment elsewhere but for several years some of these houses were occupied but today there is no trace of this operation as the location where the mill set is being farmed by John Buckley the owner of the mill site then and today. Pocahontas County was rich in natural resourses but the greatest was her timber which left payrools in each section of the county which helped it develop other resourses but chiefly coal, but quite an area of this once wooded area has been cleared up put in grass that affords abundance of pasture for cattle and sheep which the farmers sell to make a living since the timber has all been cut.

Information. George Bartholomew-----Hillsboro, W. Va.

Court records.---Marlinton. W. Va.

A. W. McNeill. Buckeye . W. Va.

J. L. Howard. Buckeye. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

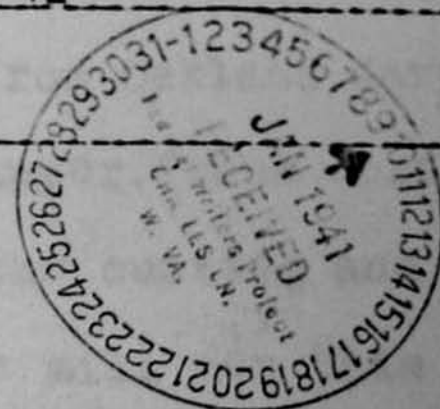
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.Lumber- Date I/8/41

Research Worker S.G Smith Date Research Taken I/7/41

Typist S.G Smith Date Typed I/8/41

Source John C McNeill.Buckeye.W.Va.
G.Preston Moore.Marlington.W.Va. Date Filed I/11/41
County Records.



Commerce And Industry. S.G Smith Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocahontas Co.

- Lumber -

In 1915 Paul Golden of Marlinton went into the lumber business and his first operations were on Clover Creek near Cloverlick and on Browns Creek but this operation was on Spruce Flats near Buckeye, having bought a 90 acre boundary of timber from Bessie and W McClintic of Buckeye for \$1.000.00 this tract was formally the Marshall, McGraw land.

Golden employed Floyd Lee originally from Oakland Maryland who had a circular mill to do the sawing Lee was sawyer. Frank Jordan and Sumner Galford of Woodrow on Laurel Creek did the cutting and skidding they had a camp. Lee had a camp and boarded the mill men this operation finished up in 15 and it was found they had cut 600.000 feet which was wagoned out to Buckeye and Marlinton for shipment where ever he could get an order for lumber. From here Golden went to operate near the Va. line on Allegheny Mountain.

Information-John C McNeill. Buckeye. W.Va.

G.Preston Moore. Marlinton. W.Va.

Court Records.

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RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry 1

Date 3/7/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

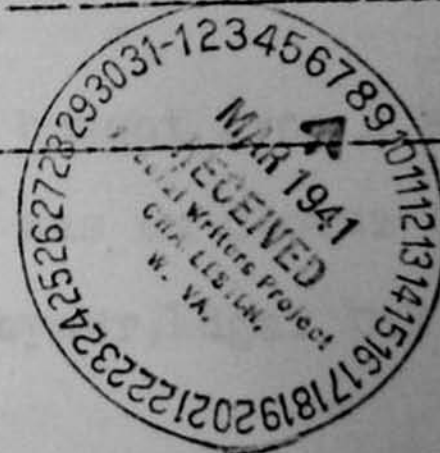
Date Research Taken 3/4, 5, 6/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 3/7/41

Source Thomas Hause, Buckeye. W. Va.
Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

Date Filed _____



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Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber

Date 2/28/41

Research Worker Samuel G. Smith

Date Research Taken 2/21/41

Typist Samuel G. Smith

Date Typed 2/28/41

Source Pocahontas Times. Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

In 1923 A. D Neil sold to the Raine Lumber Co. the saw mill, railroad, engines, bridges, houses and so forth, this was a band mill for \$ 230.000.00 the deed transferred some 5.000 acres of timber in in the Huntersville and bank district. This operation was at Clover Lick. The railroad was built Laurel Run and Thomas Creek and passes over the divide to the waters of Dry Creek. Joe Rain of the Rain Lumber Co. in charge, he is the son of Thomas Raine and represents the second generation of a very important lumber family from Pennsylvania.

The revenue stamps on the deed amounted to \$ 230.00 a good deal of timber conveyed lies on the road between Huntersville and Dunmore and is all known forest. (Now Seneca State Forest or a part of it.)

Taken from Pocahontas Times. By Price. Marlinton. W. Va.

Pocahontas-7

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry (Lumber) Date 12/27/40

Research Worker S.G. Smith

Date Research Taken Dec. 21, 23, 24, 26/40

Typist S.G. Smith

Date Typed Dec. 27/40

J.A. Denison, Stevenson, Ala.
Frank Knapp, Denmar, W. Va.

Source Henry Kincade, Beard, W. Va.

Date Filed _____

Court Records, Marlinton, W. Va.



*Research taken on dates of above
with J.A. Denison at that time + before*

The Maryland Lumber Company.

In 1910 some men from Pennsylvania and Maryland came to Pocahontas County and bought timber lands at Denmar aggregating over 17,000 acres, of this 1653⁴ was bought from The Chaffey Wilson Lumber Company of Elkins for which was paid \$309,000.00 this land was located on Oldham and Laurel Runs, a tract or rather a farm for the mill site known as the Rankin farm and purchased from Linda Burns and husband acreage 178 and a small boundary from J.W Beard of Beard, another tract of ~~1~~ acres from L.S and Effie Cochran, and 33 acres deeded by A.D Williams commissioner of school lands.

The men that were in the Maryland Lumber Company were the following President & Manager J.A Dennison, Secretary S.W Sowers, Treas, John G. Ernst all of Hagerstown, Md, and Vice President D.S McNitt of Lewistown Pa. The company was a Corporation and the stock sold mostly in and around Hagerstown but some stock was sold in Pa. Va. & W. Va.

This operation started in May 1910 the mill was set between the R-R and the Greenbrier River in the bottom of The Rankin Farm, this was a double band mill. They erected 25 dwelling houses for the men and their families a boarding house and a Company Store Claude Dennison was store man and Post Master at Denmar. A bridge was built across the river to the main tract of timber which layed on Laurel and Oldham Run which was surveyed by George W Duncan of Marlinton but an old survey gave the following calls: This was the in 1904. Starting with the old McClanahan survey and the lands of J.R Droney by the Workman field by a branch of Kinnison Run to the John Kellison tract and cornering with W.C Burr and with J.R Droney to Island Lick Run to peels Run south to

- The Maryland Lumber Company- Page 2-

the Poage place to the creek to the corners of McClanahan and James Swan Survey in The Beaverlick Mountains to the Rider land then with the McClanahan survey to the Bee Trough~~x~~ Knob crossing Oldham Run, to Joshua Run, to Wolf Lick Run. The Sherwood Tract started with the McClanahan survey taking in the John Burr tract, and another tract known as the Robert Burnside tract and joining the McConahan and James Swan survey including Mill Run. This land was conveyed to Chaffey Wilson Lumber Co. of Elkins by John T McGraw March 10, 1909 and deeded to The Maryland Lumber Co. by Richard Chaffey Pres. of Chaffey Wilson Lumber Co. of Elkins, W, Va. This land was all laying on the East side of the Greenbrier River.

Rail road track was layed from the mill up Oldham and Laurel Run~~s~~ on which they ran 3 engines daily as they had 2 Climax engines and a Shay, they had 2 steam loaders and used 10 teams or 20 head of horses in the skidding, Jake Carey was Woods Superintendent he was originally from Pa. but at this time of Huntersville, W. Va. Camps were built for the men and barns for the horses. Dr. Marvin Smith^{Hillsboro.} was the Veterinary in charge of the sick and crippled horses. Henry Hufford was shop, mill and yard foreman and Dr. McElwain was the Company doctor in charge.

At the first of the operation they contracted the skidding to E.P and Chester Hendrick but they only skidded a short time when the Company took it over and did the skidding themselves, Hendrick's were from near Renick, W, Va.

J. Vance Dennison son of the Pres. lost an arm on the mill, and Hammond Mann of Pocahontas County was killed by the log train.

Some 150 men were employed on this operation and they sawed over 100,000,000 feet and sold off the North East portion of this tract to

1740
Frank P Kidd then of Hillsboro and now of Beard, W, Va. which was operated by him.

The Maryland Lumber Company sawed all kinds of lumber and for many different purposes as they had a lath mill and made laths from White Pine and other soft wood, and at the same time they had lumber cut for chair backs, most all their lumber was shipped out over the C & O Rail Road, as the local market was very limited. They manufactured both hard and soft wood.

This operation finished up ~~1918~~ in 1918 and was sold to the state of W. Va. but they did not clean up until 1919 when everything was cleaned up and moved out. All the land and buildings on the West side of the Greenbrier River was sold to the State for a Colored Tuberculosis Sanitarium this was the Rankin place and the Maryland Lumber Co. buildings the boarding house was used for the hospital which was replaced by the modern up-to-date hospital built in 1937 & 38 by the W.P.A the store building is now used as a Postoffice, the old mill shed is used to store feed and house the machinery that the state has at this farm. The Blue Grass Land Co. bought some 8,000 acres on the left of Laurel Run and later sold it to the state for reforestation the right hand side of the run was bought by The New River Coal Co. operating in Raleigh and Fayette Co. this tract had approximately 9,000 acres in it.

Upon completion of this operation J.A. Dennison and his son went to Stevenson, Alabama and formed The Chickamauga Cedar Co in 1923 and are operating there today.

The Denmar Lumber Company meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it furnished employment for near 150 men and a good percent of these

40 The Maryland Lumber Co. S. G. Smith. Hillsboro, W. Va. Pocahontas County.
(Lumber) Page 4

were local county men . This lumber town consumed the surplus farm commodities of Denmar, and Beard and was greatly missed when it finished up and moved out.

Today we find at the scene of this operation some of the same buildings used by the lumber company and just above them we find a beautiful concrete structure where the Negroes of this state that have Tuberculosis are treated and this farm is one of the better farms in this section of the county producing an abundance of grains and truck crops that are used at the Denmar Sanitarium, the ashes from this mill helped to build up this river bottom farm .

Denmar got ~~it's~~ its name from the names Dennison and Maryland Den-mar as Dennison was the Pres. of this co. and he was from Maryland.

Thus the passing of one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations.

Information-J. A. Dennison, Stevenson, Alabama.

Frank Knapp. Denmar. W. Va.

Henry Kincade. Beard. W. Va.

Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas-7
Subject Commerce & Industry.Lumber

Date I/II/41

J.E Moore Lum.Co.

Research Worker S.G Smith

Date Research Taken I/IO/41

Typist S.G Smith

Date Typed I/II/41

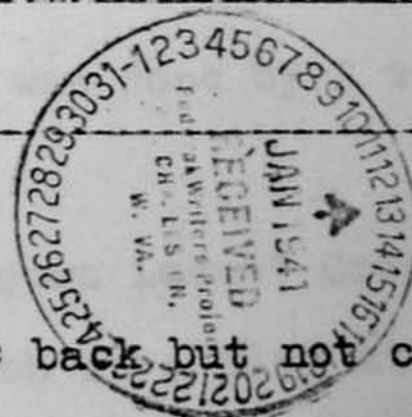
Sidney McCoy.Beard.W.Va.

Source Remus Cutlip. " "

Date Filed _____

E.E Callison.Marlington.W.Va.

Court Records. " "



Obtained part of this information some time back but not complete enough to send in until this time.

I N D U S T R Y

Chapter 7.

Pocahontas County.

MIDDLE-FORK DRIVING COMPANY

In 1895 Withrow McClintic of Buckeye, Pocahontas County, then a farmer and stock buyer, took a contract from the Gauley Lumber Company, of Camden, now known as Camden-on-Gauley, to cut, skid and drive to Camden the timber on some 3000 to 4000 acres located on the Middle Fork of Williams River.

They cut the timber, ran it down a slide to the Middle Fork of Williams River, and from there into Gauley River that carried the logs to Camden-on-Gauley. Splash dams were constructed in Williams river to gather a tide to make high water so the logs would carry over shallow water. These dams were built of logs and reinforced inside ^{the crib} with rock; the ends of the logs were nailed together with iron spikes 2 to 3 feet long. In this crib were gates operated by levers.

When the water had gathered to a depth sufficient to raise the logs from the bottom of the river, the gates were opened and the tide carried the logs down the river until the tide ran low and there they would stop until a flood came or until the dam had filled to be let out again.

Often the logs were piled in the river 50 to 60 feet high and would jam and not start moving. When this happened the logs were

dynamited to loosen them up and start them down the river.

Mr. McClintic got part of his supplies from Ronceverte and Millboro, Va. These were brought in with wagons drawn by four horse teams. Trail was cut out a distance of 18 miles from Spruce Flat close to Buckeye and Mountain Lick Run on Williams River to the camp by way of Barlow Hacking. This trail is still known as the McClintic Trail. In going to the camp you crossed Williams River 23 times and Gauley one time, a very rough trail.

It took from four to five days to go to Millboro or Ronceverte and bring in groceries for the camp and feed for the horses.

McClintic employed from 35 to 45 men and used from 10 to 12 teams of horses.

The men were paid \$32.00 per month, with board. The work was very dangerous, especially on the slides from the log landing to the river, and the driving of the logs down the river; however, the most serious of accidents were minor mashes, bruises and broken legs. McClintic was paid \$5.75 per thousand to cut, skid, and drive to Gauley River. Most of the men were from Pocahontas County, but a few came in from Greenbrier County, and the State of Virginia. Part of this timber was in Webster County, close to Cowen.

Mr. McClintic did not get to finish the job due to trouble with the Gauley Company, but was at the job off and on for seven years, and came out in 1902.

They held back a percentage of his earnings until the job was completed. This ran up over \$40,000, but Mr. McClintic got only \$20,000. of this sum and moved all equipment out. From this time on he operated logging jobs and ran small saw mills of his own in different sections of the County and adjoining Counties.

Middle-Fork Driving Company

From 1895 until his death in 1931 Withrow McClintic, beyond any doubt, furnished employment to more men than any individual in Pocahontas County, as he at all times employed from 20 to 35 men at lumber manufacturing, putting out telephone poles, locust for pins, locust posts, mine props and any other timber he could find a market for.

Since his death several families have been forced to leave the community to find employment, as his payroll meant a lot to the Swago community in which he lived.

He was a large land owner, handled large numbers of sheep, cattle, horses and mules; therefore, he was a large tax payer.

(Information J. O. Morrison, Marlinton, W. Va.
Tom Hause, Buckeye, W. Va.
W. G. McKeever, Buckeye.)

10/30/40

Commerce And Industry Chapter Seven--

Limestone Lumber Company.

S.G Smith

Pocahontas County. — 7

Hillsboro. W. Va;

In 1902 Samuel Workman of Ronceverte a lumber grader took an option on 500 acres of timber on Williams River taking in Little Spruce Knob and Days Run and owned by Alvin Clark of Hillsboro. Workman had the deed made to the Campbells Creek Coal Co. of Fayette Co, this deed was signed by Alvin Clark, Blanche Sydenstricker, T.A Sydenstricker, Grace C. Price, Andrew Price and Cameron Clark in 1905 with 3 years to remove the timber or to 1908 this land and timber joined the following farms. C.F Beard and M L Beard.

This timber was mostly Spruce and Hemlock and Mr Clark recd \$10,000.00 for it. The deed was notarized by G.R Curry of Hillsboro.

Campbells Creek Coal Co, employed the Limestone Lumber Co, to Mfg the timber they had a circular mill which was set on Days Run the services of 20 men were required on the mill and in the woods they used 2 teams to do the skidding, a boarding house was built to take care of the men employed there. The lumber was brought out over the Campbell Lumber Co R.R.

This operation finished up in 1908 and moved out this land today is owned by the U.S Government and a part of the vast Gov,holdings on Williams River bought up by them for reforestation purposes.

Information----Calvin Price Marlinton W Va

Court Records " "

J.O Morrison " "

D C Adkison " "

A.W McNeill Buckeye. W Va

Locahost 7
West Vi

Date 2/6/41

Date Research Taken 2/I, 4/41

Date Typed 2/5,6/4I

Date Filed

In 1894 Withrow McClintic operated the timber on the William C McClune farm now owned by O. M Hook, the circular mill was set in the run near the McClune residence and ready for operation.

The skidding was done by McClune and Russel, John And Cielser Sylva of Stamping Creek, the cutting was done by Prime Dilley and John Ginger, the sawyer was Henry Overholt. C. Hunter Kee worked on the mill and Everett Hefner was teamster for McClintic in hauling the lumber away and bringing in supplies for the camp. Most of this lumber was sold locally.

Information- D. E Ruckman. Millpoint. W. Va.

33 George Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.
40

From about 1890 to 92 or 93 Withrow McClintic was operating on Williams River and one set was near where the Burgess barn stood this timber was bought from William T Beard of the Levels, he had another set near the head of Days Run this was bought from Alvin Clark also of the Levels and it was at this set that McClintic used the first steam engine to run his mill this was about 1890.

Another set was on the William T Beard farm and just beyond where Emery Miller now lives, this set was mostly Cherry and Ash, he bought one acre from Alvin Clark of spruce and from this acre they sawed 110,000 feet or a record per acre.

McClintic moved in on the Hunt McClintic farm and set up one set near the Hunt house and the other set was in Buckeye Hollow these two sets were sawed for Hunter McClintic and in all these operations on Williams River Henry Overholt was the sawyer.

This lumber was all wagoned or sledged to Buckeye and rafted down Greenbrier to Ronceverte.

Information. George Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.

Willis McKeever. Buckeye. W. Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce And Industry (Lumber) Date 12/9/40

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 12/4,5,7/40

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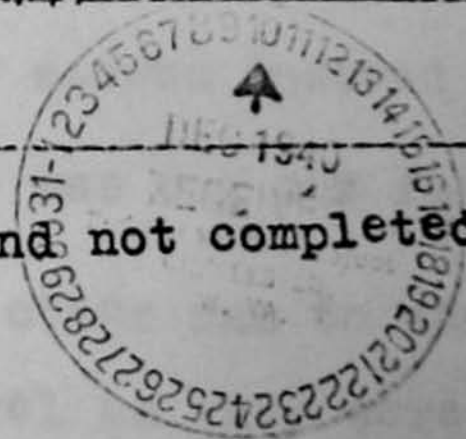
Date Typed 12/7/40

John Buckley, A.W McNeill

Source W.G McKeever, Nancy A McNeill
Of Buckeye, W. Va.

Date Filed _____

Information gotten from different people and not completed
until 12/7/



--- Whip Saw Operations ---

In 1870 Nathaniel and Davidson Arthurs of Webster County came to Pocahontas County and sawed lumber with what was known as a Whip Saw, they operated mainly on Spruce Flats And on Beaver Dam.

X A whip Saw is about 8 feet long, with more thickness than a Cross Cut Saw, had two handles on each end straight across instead of up and down so they could be run by both hands. A pit was dug out for one man to stand in while a Scaffold was built for the other man to stand on, the logs being placed on the scaffold on a level so they were easily rolled in place. 300 feet was considered a good days ~~work~~ cutting with the Whip Saw.

They sawed lumber for Jake Simmons on Spruce Flats that was used for flooring it was mainly Cherry, also the lumber that built the Ike house that is near Downey Run on Williams River, the land now ~~part of~~ apart of the McClintic farm.

Nathaniel married Eliza Beverage, daughter of Pete Beverage of the head of Dry Creek and near the divide between Stony Creek and the ~~dry~~ ^{Dry} ~~side~~ / Creek side.

Upon completion of their operations in Pocahontas County the two brothers and Nathaniel's wife went back to Webster County, Nathaniel and his wife locating at Grasse Creek in Webster.

Thus the passing of one of our first and crudest lumber operations in Pocahontas County.

Information---John B Buckley	Buckeye, W. Va.
Willis G McKeever	" "
A. W McNeil	" "
Nancy Ann McNeill	" "

Ch. 7-C
In 1908 John Pace and John Luzier of Tucker County came to Pocahontas County and bought the timber off of some 400 acres.

This was principally red oak and some white oak.

X One tract of this timber of approximately 200 acres was purchased from John Beverage on the right prong of Dry Creek a tributary of Smago Creek and not far from Buckeye, Post office and C&O Railroad, close the divide between Dry Creek and Stony Creek.

The other tract of approximately 200 acres was purchased from Daniel Adkison also of Buckeye and located on the left prong of Dry Creek but on the side of the mountain leading to Williams River.

They first set their mill on the Beverage farm the trees were cut and skidded to the mill which was a single band, there the logs were cut in lengths from 18 inches to 30 inches set on end and quarter sawed in to inch lumber to be used for chair backs which were shipped mostly to Philadelphia, Pa. and Baltimore, Md. to furniture factories.

They finished this set up in 1910 and moved to the Adkison farm and set their mill in Camp Secret Hollow, on the Adkison farm.

This land was very rough the skidding was very hard as they would have to skid the logs a short distance, cut loose from them and roll them over high cliffs of racks and again hook the horses to the trail of logs and finally get them to the mill and cut them into chair backs mostly 22 inches long and 1 inch thick so when they were surfaced they were 3/4 inch thick, this oak took a high finish and sold from \$80.00 to \$140.00 per thousand at the furniture factories.

This chair back timber was taken by sled or wagon to be loaded on cars at Buckeye which is a stop on the C&O Railroad of the Greenbrier Division.

Pace and Luzier employed 8 to 10 men in the woods and on the mill, a greater part of this help they brought from their home county of Tucker, but a part of the

pay roll was spent locally in Pocahontas County and mostly at Buckeye, where there was a post-office and 2 or 3 stores but this operation did not add to the growth of Swago Community. However, the payroll helped greatly in some way or other as the taxes they paid helped run our schools and our county affairs.

They paid \$1.25 per thousand for cutting the timber and from \$1.50 to \$2.25 for other labor they finished up cutting the chair backs in 1912 but cut other lumber from logs not suitable for furniture for about a year and finished up and moved out in 1913 to some other section of the state, where red oak timber was plentiful and close to a railroad this passed another timber operation of Pocahontas County.

Information: Austin Duncan, Buckeye, W. Va. Harper Adkison, Marlinton, W. Va.
Bill Crigger, Huntersville, W. Va.

Charlie Callison moved from Cranberry to Williams River to saw for William H. Overholt of Hillsboro who had bought Cherry timber in the Williams River section and the first set was at the Francis McCoy place, with Henry Overholt doing the sawing and Callison doing the skidding with two teams of horse and two yoke of Oxen and it was at this set that Moffett Cutlip of Beard lost his foot while working on this mill this set was principally Cherry but some Spruce was sawed to be used in the construction of Rafts to raft the lumber to Ronceverte.

The second set was at the Mitchell Gordon place on Beaver Dam, the third set was on the Hunter McClintic place the timber having been bought from McClintic.

The fourth set was at Jacob ((Jake)) Simmons place on Spruce Flats this was logged by Hamp Galford and Hunter McClintic both of near Buckeye and all sawed by Henry Overholt and was mostly Cherry but they sawed some mixed stuff for farmers of that section.

This lumber was wagoned or brought by sled to Buckeye and there the rafts were made from the Spruce that carried the lumber to Ronceverte where it was shipped to all parts of the country. This took place in 1891 & 92.

In 1893 Callison moved his mill to Locust Creek and set it on Trump Run to saw the Poplar from the William Callison farm that had been bought by William H. Overholt however about 90,000 feet of this was rafted to Ronceverte in the log and 110,000 feet was sawed by Henry Overholt as sawyer for Callison at this set, some of the logs rafted had 1,600 feet in them.

This was skidded by Charlie Callison and his brother Thomas did the looking at the camp.

Information. Henry Overholt. Marlinton. W. Va. ----- G. H. Simmons. Hillsboro. W. Va.

10/18/40

Commerce And Industry-----S.G Smith, Hillsboro, Va.

Pocahontas County.- 7 Campbell Lumber Company-----

In 1903 E.W and James Campbell of Dewdrop Pa. and John of Smithport, Pa. came to Pocahontas Co. to buy timber. They located on Williams River and succeeded in buying the timber of some 16,000 acres starting at what is known as Woodrow going down Laurel Creek to Williams River then back up the river by the meadows, Dutch Bottom, Black Mountain to Mt Lick Run and to the Barlow Hacking which is on the divide between Cranberry and Williams River, and extending to the High Rocks on the Stamping Creek side.

They were incorporated in 1903 and charter issued by Sec. of state Wm M. Q. Dawson, authorized Capital stock of \$300,000.00 in this County were E.W, James and John Campbell and M.J Sweeney all of Pa.

The millsite selected was at what is now Campbelltown on route 219 and just across the Greenbrier River from the C&O R.R they had a single band mill which was set at this location, they built about 35 dwelling houses a large boarding house and a large store, Railroad tracks were laid from Campbelltown up Stony Creek to Woodrow down Laurel Creek to Williams River then up the river to Dutch Bottom and above to Mt Lick Run. They had 3 locomotives and 2 loaders the R.R was mostly built by Italians this was standard gauge track.

Scamps
Every thing was made ready for operation their first camp #2 was just below the late Jim White homestead and now owned by Andrew Galford on Laurel Creek camp #3 was at Laurel Creek Bridge #4 at the Meadows where Fred Galford now lives #5 just above #4 #6 close to Black Mt Run #7 at Dutch Bottom #8 near Barlow Hacking #9 at Mt. Lick Run near the High Rocks or a total of 8 camps on the entire operation. Their R.R went by the name of Marlinton and Camden R.R.

The skidding was done with horses and as high as 55 horses

from them to prospective home

were used at one time or Twenty six teams, and these were fine horses costing \$450.00 to \$550.00 for each team. Jacob O. Cogar of Hdray above Marlinton was barn boss from 1905 to 1912 his job was taking care of the horses the dust forced Mr. Cogar to quit this job and he went to cutting timber, he was succeeded by Harper Turner of Lobelia camp number seven barn burned with quite a loss as they lost two car loads of hay and 1800 Bushel of oats. The skidding was very dangerous as they crippled lots of horses which kept a Veterinarian on the job a good part of the time doctoring the sick ones and treating and doctoring the crippled ones they had as high as eight and ten horses in the barns at a time with Dr. M. C. Smith treating them he at that time was at Millpoint and now a resident of Hillsboro, W. Va besides the ones the Veterinary took in to his barn to treat and care for and return to the camp as soon as they were able to work, these trips were all made on horseback a distance of 25 to 30 miles round trip through the mountains but the Dr. made the trip day or night in all kinds of weather crossing high water and going ^{over} very dangerous trails to reach the sick or crippled horses.

H. G. Baxter of Pa. was general manager, Jack Crookshanks and Lanty Cole of Pocahontas Co. were woods Superintendent and woods foreman, E. W. Campbell was Sec, and Treas, and John Campbell was president of the Co.

They had a Commissary at camp 4 and 7 so the men could get necessities with out coming out to Campbelltown each of these stores had a clerk. They cut all kinds of hard wood Spruce and Hemlock, and the best information I could get they cut between 90 and 100 million feet. ~~They paid their men \$1.75 per day contracted timber cutting for \$1.00 per M. \$2.50 per cord~~

for tannery.
They paid their men \$1.75 per day contracted timber cutting for \$1.00 per M. \$2.50 per cord for peeling t a n bark some of t h is bark was used locally the rest shipped to other tanneries in different sections of the U.S.

There were quite a few accidents and quite a few lives were lost, during the time of this operation, Charlie Bush was killed by a rolling log Veriner Reiford of Buckeye was killed by some log trucks that got loose and ran away hitting the caboose in which he was standing, Cecil Galford of Pocahontas Co. was killed by a falling tree, and an Italian working on the R.R. grad was blown up by dynamite parts of his body were found in the tops of

feet 50 and 60 feet high.

They worked some 300 men in their woods, on the R.R., and on the mill. Pearl McCauley of Pa. was the blacksmith he did most of the horse shoeing after quitting time or at night so the teams would lose no time.

Campbell Lumber Company ~~1111111111~~ furnished employment to not only the men that lived in this territory but furnished employment to men that came with them.

This was a prosperous operation and it meant a lot to Pocahontas Co. and especially Edray District where this operation took place. When they had finished the operation back on the Williams River they sold the land off to different people some of it was cleared up and used for crop ground or put into pasture as for years Williams River was noted for its abundance of grass most of the farms on Laurel Creek are part of the Campbell Lumber Co. land. They sold ²⁰⁶⁰ ~~8101~~ acres to some stockholders in the Banf of Marlinton they formed a Co. and went by the name of Pocahontas Co. Coal and Land Co. and in 1935 they sold to the U.S. Government, this was the Campbell cutting from the Meadows on Williams River taking in Black Mt. to the Cranberry side or Warren cutting by the High Rocks and extending to the Spruce Flats or a boundary of 8010 acres and on this is Black Mt. fire tower which is used each fall during fire season. On this boundary you find excellent trout fishing in spring and in the fall abundance of good hunting turkeys, grouse, deer and bear besides the fur bearing animals and in this class you even find Beaver as there are beaver working in many sections of Williams River therefore Williams River and especially the Campbell land is the Sportmans paradise ✓

Beaver Dam on Williams River got its name by Beavers being there years ago and building dams across the streams at that time.

In this section you find more of our typical mountain people than in any other section of the country the typical mountaineer of W. Va. ✓

Quite a few of the woodsmen settled on Williams River after the Campbell Lumber Co. had finished up and they are found there today some living in crudely constructed log houses and making part of their living by fishing, hunting trapping and digging ginseng. ✓

Campbells finished up in 1914 thus ended one of the largest lumber operations of Pocahontas County. They shipped out all the lumber and moved all machinery and sold the houses and lots in Campbell ^{town} to C.A. Yeager of Marlinton, and he had a sale and sold them to prospective home

seekers and today you find the town about the same as it was when it was occupied by families working for the Campbell Lumber Co. There is still a store, blacksmith shop, a church, school, filling station this town would be larger today than it is but due to the location expansion is impossible as you find Stony Creek on one side and a very steep hill on the other therefore growth and expansion is impossible however you find a clean little town with the population depending on employment elsewhere for their living.

Information----- Lloyd Vanreenen
 George Burgess,
 Jacob O. Cogar,
 J.O. Morrison
 Court Records

Marlinton, W. Va. R.F.D.

"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"

OFFICE LETTER

To Bruce Crawford, State Director Office	Date November 28, 1940
From Juanita Dilley Office	Referring to
Subject Report for Oct. 4th page 6 Beard Mill	File

Separate sheet for each subject. Omit all formalities. For office letters only.

In this report I said that this mill was believed to have been built by Josiah Beard, but since then I find in Will Book No. 1 page 239, Greenbrier County, John Beards will in which he wills the mill to his son Josiah.

The will is dated May 11, 1808, and reads in part "I bequeath to my son Josiah when he comes of age the Locust Creek Plantation and Mills. Item. I bequeath the rent of the Locust Creek plantation and the mills till Josiah come to age and the money arising from the sale of the place on the head of the dry run and also my part of Knob place to be equally divided amongst all my daughters."

According to Price's History John Beard was the pioneer Beard of the Greenbrier Valley and while his home was in Greenbrier he owned lands in Pocahontas. He came to the valley around 1770, and died in 1809. No doubt this mill was built before 1800 making it one of the oldest mills in Pocahontas county.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 4/1/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 3/22,26,27,28,29,31

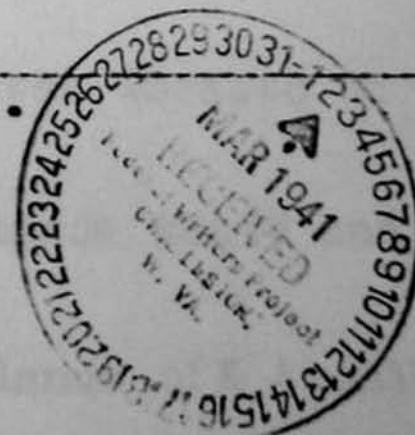
Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 4/1/41

Source Will be given when bal.

Date Filed _____

of report is submitted. which will be in a few days.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith. Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. started buying white pine timber in
Pocahontas County in 1874, this tract was bought from the Greenbrier Lumber Co.
for \$ 50,000.00 and comprized 2,185 acres and laying on Sitlington Creek, Deer
Creek, Peters Mt. and Greenbrier River running with the lines of Isaac Moore &
John A Warwick and with the road to Greenbank and the Sulphur Spring and ext-
ending to the lower end of Browns Mt. some of this timber was located on Little
Creek. In 1878 they bought a small tract from Isaac & Alcinda Moore and locat-
ed on Sittlington Creek & Thomas Creek and adjoining the lands of Archibald
McCalister on Peters Mt. In 1882 they bought the white Pine on 176 acres from
William F and Mary F Arbogast this tract was formerly owned by Robert C Warwick,
and in the same year they bought the pine and other timber on 5,183 acres this
was the Lockridge and Geiger tracts in Pocahontas Co, and in Bath Co. Va. and the
the J.P & Nancy Moomau lands that joined the lands of Lucy Taylor and Claybourne
Ashford and in 1883 they bought a tract of 351 acres from Henry and F.F Buzzard
his wife and located near Huntersville W. Va. also in 83 a tract from Jacob and
Mary Kerr situated on Deer Creek. and in 84 they bought timber in Allegheny Mt.
that layed in both Va. and W. Va. also in 84 a tract of 740 from George H McLaughlin
Thomas Creek also a tract on Cochrans Creek from Flijah and Mary May this was
t of the land conveyed from the state of Va, to Daniel, Joseph and Peter Moore.
in 1885 a tract of 30 acres from John and Minnie Driscoll and laying on Kna-

Commerce And Industry. S.G. Smith. page 2 St. Lawrence Boom - Pocahontas Co.
Creek and in 1886 bought a tract known as the John Tracy land also a tract known as the George Siple land. a tract known as the James T Lockridge tract, and another known as the Spice Run tract and owned by Sherman Clark total in these tracts 3,140 and in 1889 they bought a tract of 590 acres and laying on East branch of the Greenbrier River from F.C Rohsbaugh of Grant County, this being a part of a tract that was granted to Henry Phillips by the state of Va. in 1795 there was 590 acres in this tract. also in 89 a tract of 164 acres from Jacob and Rachel Sheets located on west side of Greenbrier River. also in 89 a tract of 1505 acres from Samuel and Tame Cooper and known as the George Burner land and in the same year a tract of 60 acres on Back Allegheny Mountain from Thomas Hugh McLaughlin, and in the same year 89 a tract of 1,765 acres from Isaac P Boggs the timber laying on ~~XXX~~ both sides of the East branch of the Greenbrier River between Poca and Falls Mts. also in the year of 89 a tract of 901 acres from Jacob B Pyles and his wife Sarah, Henry Pyles, Noah and Alcinda Alderman, Isaac N Coulter and his wife Nancy, Lemuel J and Mary Pyles, George and ~~Mary~~ ^M ~~Boggs~~ ^B, D.W and Hester Alderman, Alvin and Annie Burr, and Joseph S.B Pyles and located on Beaver Creek. and bought from George M Sheets a tract of 34 acres on Allegheny Mt. also a tract of timber on Sittlington Creek from William H Cackley, and in the same year a tract of 390 acres on East prong of Greenbrier River from Lee And Rachel Burner, and in the same year a tract of 776 acres laying on Douthards and Cochrans Creek from E.A and Emma

with, and in the same year a tract of 1515 acres from Samuel and Tame Cooper of the state of Maryland, this land was known as the Lee Burner land and was located on North Fork of Greenbrier River, and in 1890 they bought a tract of 130 acres from Henry and Mary Yoakum this timber was located on the headwaters of the Greenbrier River, also in the year of 1890 they bought a tract of 80 acres from A. W. and Martha Rider on Cochrans Creek, and in the same year they bought a tract of 150 acres from Henry and Allie Flenner located on East prong of the Greenbrier River, and again in the same year they bought a tract of 184 acres on Cochrans Creek from Horace and Margaret Lockridge, and in the same year a tract of 1988 acres on Allegheny Mt. from C. T. Seebert part of this tract was in Bath Co. Va. and again in 90 they bought a tract of White Pine and Hemlock from George I. M. Hauck located on the west side of the wagon road leading from ~~Millpoint~~ ^{Millpoint} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~lands~~ ^{lands} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~W. T. Perry and~~ ^{W. T. Perry and} ~~James P. McComb and containing 410 acres.~~ ^{James P. McComb and containing 410 acres.} In the year of 1891 they bought 1760 acres from Isaac Boggs, and in 92 a tract from H. M. Moore on Sittlington Creek for \$ per thousand feet, also in 93 a tract of 820 acres located on Spice Run and sold by H. A. Holt of Greenbrier Co. and Alex Mathews of the same County this land was conveyed to Sheldon Clark in 1849 by the state of Va. In 1894 they bought a tract from Henry S. Burr located on the headwaters of Laurel Run and adjoining the lands of John Kellison, Charles Burr and The Beaverlick Lumber Co. of Pocahontas this tract contained ² 184 acres & Burr received \$ 1.00 per thousand feet.

In 1894 the St. Lawrence people bought all the merchantable timber on the Perry tract on Poplar Flats at 75 cts, per thousand from William C Alderman, this tract contained 400 acres and joined the lands of John W Smith, George Rider and Beaverlick Lumber Co, this timber was sold by J. C Arbogast as Sheriff of Pocahontas County to settle up the estate of Alex Rider.

In 1894 S. W Kelley and Andy Reed made tenancy contracts with the Co. to look after 4,645 acres.

In 1895 they bought a tract of White Pine from S. W Wamsley and known as the Hamilton lands this was sold by Cyrus Scott and Lorenzo Strader of Randolph County as special commissioners.

In 1895 they bought the White Pine on 230 acres located on upper waters of middle fork of Anthony's Creek in Greenbrier County and was part of the Swan survey of 17,500 .

In 1896 they bought the merchantable timber on 330 acres on the Huntersville road to the Greenbrier River from Peter D and Mary Yeager and Henry & Albie Flenner reserving two pine patches for fork handles & stock poles .

In 1896 they bought timber on 191 acres from the Sherwood Co. sold by Geo. F. M Hauck Pres. of Sherwood Co. this tract was in Little Back Creek and joined the lands of R. B Turk, Amos Barlow, Daniel O'Connell & J. C Loury.

In 1896 they bought the merchantable timber on 17,500 acres from the Sherwood Co. this timber layed on Anthony's Creek conveyed by O. W Ruckman to Geo. F. M

Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S. G. Smith Pocahontas Co. Page 5-
ack, and 18,500 acres known as the Swan Survey on Cochrans Creek, Anthonys Creek
Greenbrier Co. & Bath Co. Va.

In 1897 they bought a boundary of 1,685 acres on the West side of the Allegheny Mountain and extending to Knapps Creek and formally owned by Andrew Herold and John Driscoll but sold to Porter & Margaret Kinports this joined the lands of A. W. Moore, I. B. Moore and F. Dever. and another tract of 1861 acres and not far from Sugar Camp Run.

In 1899 Mary A. Holt sold a tract of 800 acres on Spice Run and another tract of 870 acres on Laurel Run formerly owned by Sheldon Clark and H. A. Holt deceased. also in the same year this Co. bought a tract of 1760 acres from Isaac and Rachel Boggs, this timber layed on the East Branch of Greenbrier River, Boggs lived in Pendleton Co.

In 1901 they bought a tract of 198 acres from J. H. and Jennie Buzzard this timber was on Douthards Creek and joined the following farms Virginia Alderman, Sherman Kincaid. Also in the same year D. W. S. Alderman sold them timber on Douthards and Anthonys Creek in the amount of 396 acres. And in the same year they bought 396 acres from Walter F. Alderman this was the Bradshaw lands and apart of the Solomon Alderman lands.

In 1901 Sherman and Ella Kincaid sold ~~old~~ them two tracts the first containing 300 acres and in past years was conveyed by William Bradshaw to Timothy Alderman about 1870, the latter tract contained 198 acres and was on

In 1903 they bought a tract of 198 acres from Dan and Sue O'onnell on Douthards Creek and in 1904 198 acres from J.H and Jennie Buzzard also on Douthards Creek, and in 1905 a tract of 202 acres from George and Luzerna Huntley and in 1909 a tract of White Pine from Charles G and Mary Tracy.

The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Company began operating in Pocahontas Co. about 1874 and continued until about 1912 or 13. their circular mill was located at Ronceverte in the bottom between the river and the C & O R R. The president of the company was Thomas J Shrylock.

They did most of their lumbering by contract and among them were the following John Peters, Whiting Brothers, Judge Huntley and Son George, Denning & Whiting and later Smith & Whiting, Dan O'Connell besides the subcontractors and J.D William Driscoll and Sullivan and Colonel Cecil Clay took contracts from the main contractors.

In 1896 John Peters took a contract from the St. Lawrence firm to operate timber on Laurel Run this was mostly White Pine and coming from what was known as the Wallace timber, this boundary was to be operated during 96 & 97 and it was estimated there was 2 million feet on the stump, Peters was to cut, peel and slide and stamp the logs and get \$7.00 per thousand when delivered to the boom at Ronceverte or Caldwell.

The main contractors were Smith and Whiting, but prior to this it was

Denning and Whiting but Denning withdrew and Captain A. E. Smith took his place and continued to operate until the job was completed as Smith & Whiting, they were from Pa. During the time Denning & ^{James} Whiting operated which was about 1888 to 93 they worked 15 teams and from 50 to 75 men besides the teams they hired, at this time they were operating on Laurel Run and to the divide on Beaver Creek and cutting principally White Pine, which was cut skidded and in a slide worked to the Greenbrier River and drove to Ronceverte to the Lawrence mill.

About 1895 Smith & Whiting were operating on Laurel Run they employed about 110 men had 15 teams of their own besides the ones they hired among were the following, Nick McCoy, John Cleek, James Jordan, William Wade, Jess they worked day and night most of the time which was very hard and dangerous work, they received \$4.00 a day. They had a big camp and John A. Sheets was cook. The St. Lawrence brand was the figure 7 inside a square which had to be stamped on each log before it was put in the river ready for the drive.

Smith & Whiting were operating on Beaver Creek 1890 and Gus C. was subcontracted from them to cut skid and drive down Beaver Creek to the Greenbrier River. George McComb took a contract from Christer in this same territory.

Continued to next report.

St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S. G. Smith Pocahontas Co. Page # 7-
Denning And Whiting but Denning withdrew and Captain A. F. Smith took his place and continued to operate until the job was completed as Smith & Whiting, they were from Pa. During the time Denning & James Whiting operated which was about 1888 to 93 they worked 15 teams and from 50 to 75 men besides the teams they hired, at this time they were operating on Laurel Run and to the divide on Beaver Creek and cutting principally White Pine, which was cut skidded and put in a slide worked to the Greenbrier River and drove to Ronceverte to the St. Lawrence mill.

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Smith & Whiting were operating on Beaver Creek 1890 and Gus Christ subcontracted from them them to cut skid and drive down Beaver Creek to Knapp Creek and from there into the Greenbrier River. George McComb took a contract from Christ in this same territory.

Continued to next report.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. 2nd. part.
Subject Commerce & Industry. Lumber

Date 4/5/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 4/2,3/41 & before

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 4/4,5/41

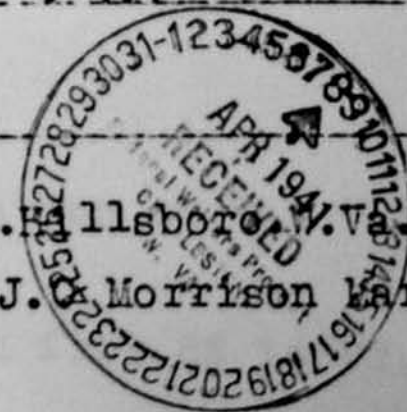
Source Howard Underwood & R. L Syms
Huntersville. W. Va.

Date Filed

H. J Barnes & John Buckley. Buckeye, W. Va. James Jordan. Hallsboro. W. Va.
Calvin W Price and Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va. & J. C. Morrison Marlinton.

E. C Hayes. Millpoint. W. Va.

Jake Simmons & Edgar L Smith. Watoga. W. Va.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas County.

About 1884 John Driscoll of Pa. took a contract from the St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. and operated on Cummings Creek, these logs were floated to Knapps Creek by a splash dam that was constructed at the Esco Alderman farm on Cummings Creek, and from Knapps Creek they were drove into the Greenbrier and to Ronceverte.

Dan O'Connel had a contract during the operation of the White Pine in Pocahontas County his operations were on Oldham Run from 88 to 92, he had a camp at each end of the slide and stables for the horses as they used from 30 to 40 teams part were his own the rest were hired from farmers in the Levels District namely John Cleek, Poe Weiford, Tom Burgess, Jesse Curry, and Ellis McCarty besides the ones he hired from Anthonys Creek. Charlie Ramsey was head cook. They used a slide on this operation, which cut out several million feet.

His next job was next to Middle Mountain near Rimel, his camp was on Southards Creek.

The Whiting Brothers Ed & Milt operated on Beaver Creek in 1913, 14 had a camp below Howard Underwoods, one near Pyles Mt. on Hoken Run and another on Jakes Run. They used 4 teams and employed about 25 men. The Whiting Bros. were from Pa.

In 1907 & 08 Judge Huntley and son George of Pa. took a contract from The St. Lawrence Boom And Mfg. Co. and operating at this time as the Sher-

ed co., this operation was mainly on Douthards Creek here they had a camp for the men and the horses as they worked from 150 to 200 men had 8 teams of their own besides the ones they hired namely B. C Hayes Frank and Garfield, Ben Campbell George and Everett Alderman, and Andy Lightner. They built a spl-
ash dam near the head of the creek to make a tide to carry the logs to Knapp-
s Creek to be drove on to Ronceverte.

Otis Warwick was head cook with Clarence Jordan as his assistant,
Jake Carey was foreman on this job, in one drive they had over 13 million feet.

The slide had to be watered so the logs would run and among the men
that watered slide were the following John & Harry Jordan & Robert Hall of Hi-
llsboro,

About 1885 Smith & Whiting were operating on Cummings Creek near whe-
re John Lee now lives, at this operation they used 6 & 7 teams of horses and
employed from 60 to 70 men, and had a log engine that they used to haul the logs
to Knapps Creek, this engine was fired on wood most of the time as about the
only coal at that time was on Briery Knob, which was a long ways off but coal
from here was used by Smith & Whiting during their operation in the White Pi-
ne operation on Laurel and Oldham Runs.

About 1893 John Peters took a contract from this company on what th-
ey called at that time Klondike Hollow as it layed to the North and was very
cold, this was on the right hand prong of Island Lick Run, he employed many out-

men and their teams the following were some of them Edgar L Smith & George
 near of Watoga, Millard F Ruckman, Lee & Frank Moore, & John Cleek of Millpoint
 they built slides that extended in to the mountains for 2 & 3 miles these
 had to be kept watered so the ice would make the logs run faster, from the
 slides they were put in Kinnison and Laurel Run and to the Greenbrier River
 to be drove to Ronceverte. Peters also operated below Durbin for this company.

John T Dixon took a contract from this company at ~~an~~ Laurel Run, at Dee-
 rcreek, and Cass.

Tom and Jack Crookshanks of Pa. took a contract and operated on the head
 of Laurel Run at Burr Valley on the John Burr place, these logs were taken down
 Laurel Run by train and put into the Greenbrier near Beard. W. Va.

Harry & Frank Harper had a contract their logs went down Anthonys Creek,
 they sub-contracted from Smith & Whiting. They had a camp and used 3 & 4 teams.

As in all other sections of our country Lumbering preceded agriculture, some
 of our early settlers came for timber, some for the wildlife that roamed the
 hills while others came to make homes, from the high mountain peaks some of the
 settlers might have looked down upon the rolling hills and the fertile valleys
 covered with timber and on the east side of the Greenbrier covered with White
 pine, as 75% of the timber on the east side was softwood, to operate and manuf-
 acture this timber the St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Company installed the largest
 mill to be found in this section or in fact in the United States at that time

mill was installed at Ronceverte and during this operation this mill produced something like 800 million. The St. Lawrence people harnessed Greenbrier River with dams, booms etc. and several paralleling canals in which to catch, sort and store endless millions of logs these having been cut up the river and drove down, this operation was known as the White Pine days and today we find settlers in Pocahontas County that came to this county from other sections of the state from other sections of the United States and many came in here from Canada during the operating of the White Pine, married here and today we find many families in Pocahontas County that their father or grandfather were the pioneers in the opening up and developing of our greatest resource ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ our timber in which this company operated over something like ~~55~~ 55,000 acres and extended from the Greenbrier County line to the head of Greenbrier River. This operation furnished employment to our many people as well as a drawing card that brought in settlers from outside the state and as the land was cleared of its timber the more level lands were taken for agriculture and so today when traveling through this vast territory you see many farms with waving grain that once upon a time produced some of the best White Pine timber that was taken out of this section, but today we find several thousand acres of this vast White Pine forest land that has been bought by the U.S. Government for reforestation purposes this is particularly true with the Buckley and Pyles Mountain area along with the chain of mountains from the Greenbrier Co.

Commerce & Industry-
Lawrence Boom & Mfg. Co. S. G. Smith Pocahontas County. page 5 of part 2-
to the head of the Greenbrier River as the Monongahela National Forest
takes in thousands of acres of this the once White Pine section also the
Seneca State Forest near Dunmore is part of the White Pine territory.

X The men that operated this White Pine had to endure all sorts of hardships worked long hours in deep snow in the woods and on the drives they had to work long hours often getting wet and this driving was very dangerous and many men were drowned besides the ones that received broken legs and lost limbs due to being crushed in the jam of logs in the river often in the icy water up to the waist for hours, if the logs lodged they were dynamited and set moving again. The men that worked in the White Pine were of the sturdy pioneer type, the character that was ^{Mixed} in frontiersmen while laboring in the White Pine woods among strangers with hardships dangerous work and working and staying in an isolated section has left its impression upon the civilization of today as they were of the sturdy pioneer type some of which married and settled in some of the White Pine territory. Thus the passing of one of Pocahontas County's largest lumber operations and the largest soft wood operation.

This lumber was shipped from Ronceverte to many of our larger cities some worked into ceiling other for siding and the larger timbers for framing that were used in the many buildings that were being built at that time all over the country, as this was virgin forest and cut millions of feet of first
20. I couldn't find anything

Ice & Industry. S.G Smith Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocahontas County.

Frederick Boom & Mfg. Co - page 6 of part 2-

lumber which found a ready market. This operation meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it furnished employment to our many woodsmen and it was from the sale of timber and employment that helped develop Pocahontas County to its standard it has today as it has always ranked high in the growth, manufacture and sale of timber and its products.

They cut down the White Pine trees.
Grove and rafted them away to the mill,
Twas in the days of the White Pine,
That they cut down our evergreen trees. S.G.S

Information-Howard Underwood Huntersville. W.Va.

Robert Lee Syms.	"	"
H.J Barnes	Buckeye.	"
John B Buckley.	"	"
James Jordan	Hillsboro.	"
Calvin W Price	Marlinton.	"
J.C Morrison.	"	"
B.C Hayes.	Millpoint.	"
Jake Simmons.	Watoga.	"
Edgar L Smith.	Watoga.	"
Court Records.	Marlinton.	((

About 1890 to 95 a party of men cut some logs along Cheat River and rafted them to Point Marion Pa. a distance of between 250 & 300 miles and when they landed them there the logs were nearly worn out from bumping rocks along the way as this route was very rough with high falls and deep gorges.

Inf-John and Jay Buckley. Buckeye. W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas - 7

Subject Commerce And Industry December 7 1940

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken Dec. 4th & 5th / 40

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed December 6 / 40

Source George Williams
Court Records

Date Filed _____

This report was rather hard to get and some time was spent at the court house trying to verify the dates.



In 1902 George Williams of near Lobelia,Pocahontas County,W,Va bought a circular saw mill,his first operation was a set on Caesar Mountain for S.J Payne of Hillsboro who had bought a tract of timber from Sam & Sabina Wamsley for \$175.00 and they received in payment one horse at \$125. and a buggy at \$50.00 this contract was written August 4,1902.

325.000 was cut at this set and upon completion moved to Seebert.

His next set was also for S.J Payne and the mill was set at what was known at that time as Carter Siding which is just below Seebert,W,Va the timber having been bought from many different people of Seebert and the surrounding terretory.This operation started in April 1903 and run to May 1904.

Camps were built to take care of the men and barns were built to stable the horses,as Payne had one and two teams there most of the time besides the horses of Ellis McCarty of Hillsboro and K.O Wade of the Wade corner which is a section at the top of the Seebert hill.

The lumber was laded in box cars of the C & O Railroad and shipped to many different sections,400,000 was sawed at this set and Williams was sawyer on all of his operations.

From Seebert the mill was moved to Red Lick Mountain to saw for Smith and Whiting they having bought this tract of timber from W.H Shearer who lived on the head of Dry Creek above Onoto. In the Company were Captain A.L Smith and Jim Whiting.

There was 378 acrs in this bandary and bounded as follows starting at the head of Dry Creek thence to the Silas Barlow line then to the line of L.M Armgast and with the lines of S.B Ilkins and H.G Davis and then

Commerce And Industry-S.G Smith,Hillsboro,W,Va.Pocahontas County.

----- George Williams Concluded-----

Kinnison in his carpenter work as W.W Kinnison contracted to build and constructed some of Pocahontas County's best and most expensive buildings among the m were the Methodist Church at Marlinton,W,Va. The Hillsboro Graded School and a residence in the Kinnison Addition of Hillsboro ~~they/we~~ and the Bank Of Hillsboro Building these were all brick buildings and constructed by Kinnison a resident of Hillsboro and near Lobelia,so most of the timber he bought and had saved was used by him in the construction of buildings of some kind or other.

Information-----George Williams ~~Love~~ Hillsboro,W.Va. (R F D)

Court Records,

Marlinton, "

During the Industrial Period (1860-1910) the people of Pocahontas County repaired and reestablished their saw mills, grist mills, tanneries, and so forth, that they had established before the Civil War, then of course there were many new ones built and many of the old ones were under new management. These, however, were all small individual businesses just as they had been before the war. No great commercial industries were begun until 1876 when the St. Lawrence Boom and Lumber Company came into the county and began cutting the white pine, cherry and walnut and rafting it down the Greenbrier River to Ronceverte. Since Pocahontas was so abundant in these timbers, this became a very important industry. Practically all of the lumber taken from this county during the next twenty-five years was taken out in this manner.

While it became known that Pocahontas had small deposits of iron, and some marble nothing was done to develop an industry and no mineral rights were taken.

Since agriculture and grazing were the chief occupation and there was no coal, nor enough other minerals to attract corporations there was no struggle between the land owners and corporations. The land was still in the hands of the original owners or their families and was valued only for its timber, grazing and for the timber. Even yet many farmers continued to clear their fields and to roll the logs into piles and burn them not realizing that they were destroying what would have soon been worth a fortune to them.

As soon as the railroads were completed in 1901, the county began to improve for now, that transportation was available, lumber companies were anxious to open up this vast timber section. Lumber towns sprang up almost over night, but when the lumbering was done they disappeared almost as fast.

So, I couldn't find anything much written on this, I consulted Calvin

There was once a man by the name of Henry Phillips who was looking over this land in the 1790. He engaged a surveyor, William Pooge of Marlins Botton, and surveyed 41,000 acres at the headwaters of Greenbrier River. This survey took in most of that rich timber country. About the same time a Randolph County surveyor made a survey of 31,000 acres for Richard Smythe which interfered, and lapped on the 41,000 acres.

Henry Phillips having acquired this land paid little or no attention to it, not even paying the paltry taxes. With other large surveys it lay idle and useless.

The legislature of Virginia finding that such large grants hindered development, evolved the law of forfeiture. So in the 1830's and 1840's they began to cut up these lands and sell them for the benefit of the school fund. The Phillips 41,000 acres was thus disposed of to the highest bidders. It brought \$212.00 which was about the cost of surveying and selling it.

In the 1880's there was a law suit over this land because of the surveys of Phillips and Smythe. But it seems that the Smythe surveys called for a cypress and no cypress could be found in these high mountains. The work probably should have been cippus meaning a set stone. At any rate, Pocahontas county wrested from Randolph County this large territory.

This threw to Pocahontas county a big boundary of spruce and hemlock forest country so rich in timber as to render it worthless for anything else.

On the titles based on this sale of forfeitures the land rose in value until it was worth something like \$5,000,000 in one day for the timber alone, and now that the timber has been cut is held at something like \$5.00 an acre for grazing.

In 1903-1915 when the heavy growth of timber was being operated a number of towns sprang up and flourished for a while and disappeared. Among them: Wilkell, Gertude, May, Brancher, Madeline, Olive, Nida, Winterburn, Burner and Oxley. The Coal and Iron Railway. What a vision of wealth and prosperity that name once conjured. Town sprang up and drummers walked the railroad from one town to the next when the trains did not run to suit them. The above mentioned towns occupied the sixteen miles of river and railroad which lies between Durbin and where Randolph County begins at the divide.

This is now a part of the cold and barren which lies in Pocahontas. Where as it used to look stern and wild, it now looks wild and naked.

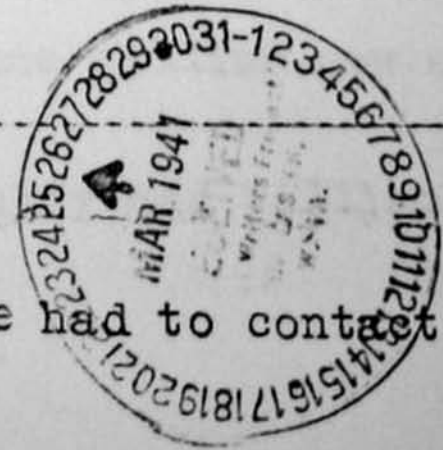
From Pocahontas Times - 1918 by Andrew Price

The above towns were only a few of the lost towns of Pocahontas. During the lumbering days towns sprang up all along the Greenbrier River and than lost their importance or ceased to exist except in name, Sitlington, Clover Lick, Harter, Campbelltown, Stilwell. This was partly after 1910, however.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry Date 3/22/41
Research Worker Samuel G. Smith Date Research Taken 3/14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20,
1941
Typist Samuel G. Smith Date Typed 3/21, 22, /41
O.B. Curry, J.R. Guthrie & court records
Source Marlinton. W. Va. Date Filed _____
Jay And William Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.
Julian Arbuckle. Maxwelton. W. Va.

This Co. has all new men at present therefore had to contact former
employees and information was hard to get.



Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
West Virginia Pulp And Paper Co. Cass. W. Va.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. began operation in 1900 and have been operating practically steady since that time, the mill site was bought from Newton J Gum and at that time was being farmed by him.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Co. was made up by and with the following men John G Luke of Orange, N. Y and his sons William, now at Covington. Va. Al Luke, Charlie Luke and S. F Slaymaker and William Whitmer of Pa. Slaymaker had the selling of all lumber.

The general manager of this co. was E. P Shafer for a long period and the present mgr. is S. D Huff, R. S Hickman was general mgr. of the Co. store and Burke McCarty was assistant store mgr. The name of the store is The Pocahontas Supply which did an enormous business at one time as they had as high as 20 clerks besides the other stores at Spruce and Slaty Fork besides small stores at some of the coal mines.

This is a double band mill that cut about 75 to 80,000 a day when they were operating the best of their timber, they had 14 log engines and 3 of these were the largest Shay engines built at that time, they had 10 to 12 loaders besides the steam skidders that they used on Elk and other sections ~~XXXXXX~~ but at one time they had 27 camps and had about 10 teams to the camp therefore they had over 200 teams of horses or 400 head. They had a steam shovel and a ditcher.

Their R R was known as The Greenbrier Cheat And Elk River R R

or the G.C & E. with Robert Hivio as R R Supt. The railroad started at Cass went up Leatherwood to Spruce and there it forked went down Cheat River near Cheat Junction, the other fork leads to Bergoo, Slatyfork and vec, with a line up Elk River and in on Tea Creek by way of Red Lick Mt.

The mill foremans were William Anderson and Charlie Furman, the druggist was Harry Hill and at present store Mgr, E.C Smith was store Mgr. at Slatyfork, Jay Buckley was clerk at Slatyfork and run commissarys for the Co. at different places, William Buckley worked in the store at Cheat. The woods supts, were Sol McNeely, Heaston Payne ~~XXX~~ Judson Taylor and John (Jack) Crookshanks, lumber graders J.R Guthrie and Mark Wood Gum, the postmasters have been Dr. Joe Ayers, Lake Clark and James Moyers the present P.M, Merl Irvine conductor and train master, George Graham was in charge of the office R.W Fox bookkeeper and Leona Sheppard office worker, John Hannah G.C. & E .R.R. Elmer Duncan shop clerk train master and office man, Joe Graves yard foreman, S.E Nethkin run the Company firm and operated the meat market for several years but the present farm manager is George Waugh, George Anderson was shovel man for the R R and another George Anderson was assistant mill foreman, Yard foreman Hob Rose.

The first Company doctor was Dr. Julian Arbuckle he was one of Greenbrier County, leading doctors after he left Cass, the present Dr. is Dr. U.H Hannah and their veterinary was Dr. F.C Nickel.

The following were engineers on the C.C & E R.R some time or other George Williams, Cal Bradley, George Cromer, Ben Cameron, Sam Waugh, Frank Williams, Floyd Dorman, H.C Gilmore, Thurman Fitzwater, Pat Bradley, Charlie & Grover Craddock-Red Stanley, C.W Odell was train dispatcher .Frank Ines was conductor on Cheat. James Collison was time keeper for the woods and took orders for the camps. The sawyers were the following men Tim Kenealey, Jean Kepner, Homer Brown, Ray Ott, Blackie Calhoun, Robert Blackburn, Warren Shifflet, Joe Hannah was one of the first sawyers, and the present sawyers are Harry Miller and Oscar Sarson. Joe Wooddell is town police. Herbert Shafer master mechanic and shop foreman, their electric welder man is Chalmers Shrader.

The W.Va. Pulp And Paper Co. have operated over something like 110,000 acres ^{in Boone Co.} besides some in other counties and this acreage covered the most of the upper end of Pocahontas County, and took in the following territory, Cass, Back Mt, Cheat Mt, Gown Cheat River, Bergoo Creek, Slatyfork, Gauley Mt, Elk River and to the Randolph County line and when they were operating from 1915 to 30 they employed between 2500 and 3,000 men that received from \$ 2.50 to \$ 4.60 a day (the high prices were during the war.)

Besides the band mill at Cass they had a pulp mill at Spruce and they put out solid train loads of pulp that was shipped to Covington Va. to their paper mill or to Lake Md to a paper mill there and on March 10. 1940 they had a big ^{fire} at the Covington plant that destroyed several thousand dollars

worth of property and material, losing 10 million pounds of finished kraft and scrap besides the paper and two men lost their lives J.E Steeley plant Supt.and Walter F Linger mill chemist and dept.head were overcome with smoke and died of a heart attack.

During the war they had an Extract plant in the lower end of Cass at what is called the Y, and here they made khaki dye the supt. was A. Molton.

The population of Cass at the present time is 800 but back a few years ago it had a population of 22,00 and at that time was the largest town in Pocahontas County, Cass has about 400 ~~XX~~ Company houses a school for the white population also a school for the colored, 3 churches and a large hotel that would accommodate from 50 to 75 people that was under the management of Mrs. Jack Crookshanks and a Mrs. Heaster at different times they employed 4 or 5 girls and 2 cooks, besides this establishment they had private hotels and restaurants on the east side across the river, and it was on east side where the lumber hicks mostly put up and it was here that several murders were committed and was known as dirty street over here you found 2 or 3 stores a restaurant, a hotel and several privately owned houses.

The Co. had camps from Spruce to Bemis on the Western Maryland R R, most of the C. O & I R R was built by Italians and Austrians and these were known as the bohunk camps.

During their operations coal was discovered and mines were opened up on top of Gauley Mt. between Bergoo Creek and Slatyfork this mine was operated until 1940. another mine was opened up below Spruce and was called the Hopkins mine, another was the Linan mine just below the Hopkins mine, and about 1920 Big John mine and Deer Lick mines were opened up, this was about the time they were lumbering up Fishing Hawk Creek this coal was mostly used by the Co. in their trains and at the town of Cass. You find coal on many of their holdings and no doubt some day these mines will be reopened and new ones opened up.

The W.Va Pulp And Paper Company beyond a doubt had the largest operations of any Co. operating in Pocahontas Co. and today they own several thousand acres of land but have sold several thousand acres to the government for reforestation purposes, their farming operations are very extensive as they have farm lands from just outside of Cass to the Greenbank road and along Deer Creek and you find land in high state of cultivation and some of the finest barns that are found in this section of the State and in these they winter from 2 to 300 head of cattle and back a few years ago they produced over 1,000 lambs a year.

The W.Va. Pulp & Paper Co. Operations in Pocahontas County have meant more to the growth of the county than any other operation that has taken place here as they not only furnished employment to the people but have helped

greatly in the way of taxation besides the towns that have sprung up namely Cass, Slatyfork, and Spruce besides scattered houses at these coal mines at Hopkins mine, Linan mine, Deer Lick & Big John mines, at Spruce where they had the pulp mill you found hundreds of acres of spruce trees as this is a cold place snow getting 2 to 3 feet deep.

During their 40 years of operating at Cass it is estimated they cut 1,126,400,000 and about the same amount of pulp wood. most of the hardwood went to Luke Md. and it is estimated by one of their former lumber graders that at they carried 16 million feet of lumber on the yards at a time. They had a planing mill and put out finished surfaced lumber in the way of siding, flooring and other dressed lumber that was mostly used locally in the county.

The Pocahontas Supply Co. store did a business of \$ 1,200,000.00 a year business when they were in the best of the timber and when business was good.

The mill burned in 1924 but was rebuilt at once.

Cass today is a thriving lumber town that has meant a lot to Pocahontas County as it made a market for all the surplus farm commodities of the surrounding territory, paid enormous taxes that helped our county schools and government and furnished employment to thousands of her citizens this was Pocahontas County's largest operation and the payroll of the W.Va. Pulp and Paper Co. was the largest of any in Pocahontas. The lumbering from about 1900 to 1928 was the greatest industry in the County but since that time the oper-

have been smaller operations but the Government has bought thousands of acres of cut over land for reforestation purposes so in years to come it is hoped the lumber industry will be better than at the present time due to the reforesting.

The W. Va. Pulp And Paper Company hope to complete their operations at Cass in 2 or 3 years the present time they are just operating in order to furnish employment to the population of Cass.

Information - O. B. Curry. Marlinton. W. Va.

J. R. Guthrie. " "

Court Records. " "

Jay Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.

William Buckley. " "

Julian Arbuckle. Maxwelton. W. Va.

All the above worked for the Co. at some time or other but Arbuckle and his father was Co. Dr. for a time at Cass.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry

Date 3/13/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

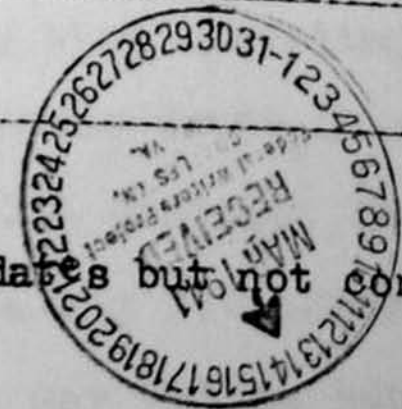
Date Research Taken 3/13/41
& 3/12/41

Typist Smith

Date Typed 3/13/41

Source James Forney. Marlinton. W. Va.
Court Records.

Date Filed _____



Some of the information was gotten before these dates but not completed
until above dates.

Williams And Pifer Lumber Co.

In 1917 was incorporated and L.H Williams was Pres. and Gen mgr.
A.C Pifer Vice Pres. and Dr.M.S Wilson Sec and Treas, all of Marlinton. W.
Va.

Their operations have been all over Pocahontas County and part of
Greenbrier as they operated in 1917 on Spring Creek in Greenbrier Co. this
was sawed by J.L Howard of Buckeye. and in 1920 they were operating on Lau-
rel Creek. 1917 on Elk .and in 1920 on Brushy Mt. Cummins Creek. Beaver Creek
and until 1926 they were operating in the Huntersville District but in 1929
they bought two tracts of timber from F.P Clark totaling 810 acres and in
1930 they bought a boundary of 60 acres of the John Gay est. on Bucks Run and
in 1931 they bought a tract of 158 acres on the Dry Fork of Stony Creek
from William D and Jessie Burgess of Laurel Creek. and since that time they
have had their circular mill set in the upper part of the town of Marlinton
and buying and trucking logs where ever they can buy any in connection with
this mill they run a planer and sell building material already surfaced and
ready for use.

When they were operating at capacity they used from 6 to 8 teams of
horses to do the skidding had a log engine and 4 or 5 log trucks when they were
operating on Laurel Creek and used from 3 to 4 trucks to haul lumber and logs

Bert Roberts was their sawyer for quite a long time, and Alva Johnson
is the present lumber grader and has been for several years.

Besides their lumbering operations they have a large store, in which
they have their office, a general store a meat market with an experienced meat
cutter in Clarence Jordan Ward Wimer store man assisted by hired help and be-
sides this they distribute Conoco gasoline and oil in Pocahontas and Randolph
County. this business was all built up from their lumbering operations of the
last 24 years.

Information. James Forney. Marlinton. W. Va .
Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

Feb. 23, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Second Ave.
Marlinton, W. Va.

-1-

Pocahontas

Chapter 4- Section 4- Part a

The first saw mill in the Greenbank Community was owned and operated by the pioneer Wooddells; Probably Joseph Wooddell, the Revolutionary War veteran, that settled on the lands of Thomas Cartmill and Abraham Ingram. Cartmill conveyed his land to Abraham Ingram on June 13, 1798 and Ingram conveyed to Wooddell about 1800. Ingram may have developed the water power for this mill. The lumber that finished the old colonial mansion house of Jacob Warwick at Clover Lick was sawed on this mill and was furnished by Mr. Wooddell about one hundred and twenty-five years ago. A tilt hammer was installed at this mill which was greatly needed by the pioneers in making tools and implements of iron and steel. This machine was used in drawing out and flanning large iron and steel for making wagon tires, horse shoes, shovel plows, bolts, nails and shaping out heavy iron work. Mr. R. W. Brown, who gave me the information on these first mills, thinks it very doubtful whether the people who now live in the town of Greenbank know that a machine of this kind, called the Tilt Hammer, was operated in this town. The sight of the old mill and tilt hammer is on the land of Henry Wooddell; the pit and embankments may be seen on the west side of the road between Martin Sutton's blacksmith shop and Henry Wooddell's house. The old mill race is now used for the county road. This mill was a great labor saver for the community and had its niche in the early development of the community.

Harmon Conrad of Frederick County, Maryland, purchased the William Taylor Grant from John Brown on August 3, 1799, and began to harness the water power of North Fork which was called Cartmills Creek at that time. His son, Solomon Conrad, who was a veteran of the War of 1812, after going through the war and being honorably discharged, took charge of the home place. About 1840, he built and operated an up and down saw mill until the close of the Civil War. In connection with the saw mill he had a dry kiln, and always had some of the very best white pine lumber to sell. In that day no log was sawed into lumber unless it was the very best. This mill was a great benefit in the development and advancement of the Greenbank community. The old mill site and the Solomon Conrad homestead, has been the home of O. L. Orndorff, a grandson, who in 1893 employed Robert J. Burns to reroof and weatherboard the old home; and Newton Ervin and Warwick Hudson to rebuild the chimneys. This is the oldest house in the Greenbank Community, having stood one hundred and fifteen years or more. It is on colonial style, with its massive chimneys, old time fire places, and spacious mantels. It is in a fine state of preservation and has the appearance of standing another century.

Along about the year of 1825 Or 1830, John Yeager had erected a saw mill on Block run, a branch of North Fork, and built a dam across the run with rocks, which was a complete piece of masonry; the wall was about thirteen feet high and about two hundred feet long; the inside was

filled with clay and dirt at an angle of about one to one and a half. When the dam was full of water, it covered about an acre of ground. The venerable John E. Gum, when a young man, worked for Mr. Yeager and sawed lumber on his mill. He said that the dam was full of mountain trout, and that he would start the mill to sawing, then he would catch trout for ten or fifteen minutes until the mill had run the line; during the day he would catch a basket of fish and keep the mill running at the same time. This old mill site is about two miles from the Yeager Homestead and the Allegheny Battlefield, on the Block Run. The Yeager mill dam blocked the run; hence the name "Block Run". The North Fork Lumber Company in building their railroad tore down part of the wall to make room for their track. The line of the Monongahela National Forest passes through the old mill dam. This mill was a great help to the settlers on the top of the Allegheny Mountain. The finish lumber for the old log church on the Allegheny Mountain was sawed on this mill.

The first timber cut for export was cut just before the Civil War at Cass by James Atlee Price. This was sent down to Marlinton and sawed on an up and down saw mill about one half mile above Marlinton where Riverside now is.

The North found out during the Civil War about the white pine in the Greenbrier Valley. Colonel Cecil Clay of New York, a friend of the Roosevelt family, came back to see about it. In 1876 he had cut and floated to

Ronceverte, the nearest railroad, a large amount of white pine.

The first circular saw mill and steam engine in brought to the Greenbank Community was in the year 1884. It was located about one hundred yards east of the county road on Dismal Run and was owned by a man by the name of Pain. The mill was operated by a man by the name of William F. Gum. The name Dismal Run came from the fact that the white pine and hemlock trees stood so thick that the sun could not penetrate the foliage of the trees and the place was so dark and gloomy that the early settlers dubbed it with the name "Dismal Run".

During the 80's and the 90's the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company at Ronceverte cut hundreds of millions of feet of white pine. All of this white pine was driven down the Greenbrier to Ronceverte. During this time they constructed a splash dam across Rosin Run and, when they had the logs rolled in, they turned the dam loose and floated the logs to North Fork, thence to the Greenbrier River and on to Ronceverte. They began to open the dam on the logs about the latter days of February and about the first of May, 1883, they completed the drive to the North Fork. About two million feet of white pine was driven down the Rosin Run by the splash dam system. This work was under the supervision of Alex McLain and H. A. Yeager. The old splash dam is on the lands now owned by J. B. Sutton. The St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company also cut

cherry, walnut, ash, and poplar, and floated it down the river on rafts to Ronceverte. They perhaps cut more cherry than all the other kinds of timber put together.

The rafting points were, Clover Lick, Stony Bottom, Marlinton, Buckeye, and Seebert.

Then the railroads came and the oak, pine, hemlock, and spruce, known as the "Northern hardwood mixture" began to be developed.

The first big company to come into the county after the railroad was built was the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company at Cass. After forty years, it is still in operation. For twenty-five years they sent out a train load of twenty-five cars to Covington daily. At one time there were three thousand men on their payroll. This is the only big operation in the county at the present time. They are doing a lot of flooring and finishing lumber. If anyone in Pocahontas County were to order flooring from Montgomery Ward & Company, it would probably have come from Cass. The West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company use modern forestry methods so as to provide for a continuous crop.

The best measured acre of spruce in the county cut 144,000 feet. This was at Mountain Lick Run on Williams River.

About 1904, the Cherry River Lumber Company started operating in the County. They operated for thirty miles through the county and are still cutting.

For a number of years there were ten thousand men at work on the various lumber operations. Pocahontas County

has produced more timber than any county east of the Mississippi River. About 1915, when lumbering was at its height, the population of the county was about twenty-two thousand persons. When most of the operations had cut out the population decreased ten thousand.

The following were saw mill towns with an average population of three hundred: Wildell, May, Gertrude, Burner, Nottingham, Thornwood, Watoga, Campbelltown, Stilwell, Reintown, Winterburn, Hosterman, Clover Lick, Warn Town, Raywood, Deer Creek, and Denmar.

Many hundreds of miles of railroad was in operation. All of the companies operating at the above named towns had railroads, some as much as seventy-five miles.

Besides these large operations, there were many fair sized ones.

The cut over land has been largely taken up by the United States Government for the Monongahela National Forest, which owns seventy percent of the area of the county. The State of West Virginia owns twenty-two thousand acres in state parks.

The largest land holdings in the county belonged to the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, the Cherry River Lumber Company, and the Pocahontas Tanning Company.

In reference to the operations of the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Company which I mentioned on page four, the first white pine cut to be driven down the river to them at Ronceverte, was in the year 1882 and John Driscoll was the man who had the contract. The white pine was cut on the Moore farm at Dunmore. About a year later, Capt. A. E. Smith and James Whiting under the firm name of Smith and Whiting started cutting white pine on Laurel Run where Denmark now is. They cut here and on Knapps Creek for six or eight years and each year had ten million feet of white pine driven down Knapps Creek and Greenbrier River to the St. Lawrence Boom and Manufacturing Co. at Ronceverte.

Note The may have been a log drive in 1872. There was one in 1874. From 1876 to the last drive in 1908, they were annual events on the river.

NORTH FORK MILL BURNS

Dear Cal:

Saturday night, March 2nd, 1940, was the time that the North Fork Flour Mill was utterly and completely destroyed by fire. This disaster is considered the most unfortunate event of a calamitous nature that has afflicted the Greenbank neighborhood since the days of the Civil War. Mr. J. B. Orndorff owner of the mill had worked in the mill all day without fire. Different persons had passed the mill just after dark and saw no light or fire. The fire was first discovered about 7 p. m., by Clyde Gillisple and Cecil Arbogast who live nearby; the whole inside was a mass of flames when first discovered. In less than a half hours time the whole structure was a mass of ruined machinery, cog wheels, shafting, fly wheels, and mill stones. The entire loss is estimated at more than \$10,000. The two turbine driving wheels are still in the water deck in regular arrangement. This mill has been the main stand by for the neighborhood for a period of about 60 years. The entire neighborhood sustains a sense of loss and sympathize with Mr Orndorff in his great loss.

This mill was erected by Uriah Hevener, Sr., in the year 1879, on the site of the old Bruffey flour mill. Patrick Bruffey had erected a flour mill on the same site about the year of 1825 which was driven by an over shot water wheel; he also had an up and down saw mill driven by the same water power arrangement, which had been supplanted by a new saw mill in the 1870's.

In the last few years the mill was operated under the firm name of The North Fork Milling Company, but was known far and near as the Hevener Mill. It was erected when the famous white pine trees were plentiful and all the frame work was hewed and dressed by hand, all the framing was mortised, draw bored and pinned with locust pins. No spikes were used in the frame work. The entire building was four stories high including the basement and was a complete master piece of architecture. The modern carpenter would always stand in admiration, and marvel at its perfect construction.

The services of James Elliott was secured to build the mill and with the help of Eldridge Brown and a Mr. Propps did all the carpenter work on the building. Charles P. Brown laid the foundation and did the mason work. The machinery was put in perfect running condition by a millwright by the name of Corann and Robert J. Brown, carpenter helper.

Many different millers operated the mill during the past sixty years. Perhaps Robert N. Gum worked in the mill longer than the other miller.

In keeping up with industry, and in view of the needs of the Greenbank community it may be observed that the old Bruffey mill and the Hevener mill was a center of industry and had their place of importance in the niche of the history of the Greenbank community.

James Elliott, the master mechanic, of the building was a soldier of the Indian wars; was a private under the command of General George A. Custer, and General Reno. He was with Reno's army when General Custer's Company was massacred in 1876. Mr Elliott's affidavit was taken by Squire John P. Townsend in 1926 for the purpose of securing a pension for Mr Elliott as an Indian war veteran. Mr Elliott died before the papers were ratified and sanctioned by the U. S. Government. Mr Elliott was a Confederate soldier in the Civil War under command of General Kirby Smith, and Dick Taylor in the South West. After the war Mr Elliott worked his way from Mississippi to Iowa, and from there in company with a man named Reynolds, went to the Dakotas on a trapping expedition, and thereby enlisted in Custer's Army.

R. W. Brown.
Greenbank, W. Va.

— Pocahontas Times
3/22/40

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